

Lincoln
Diocese Documents



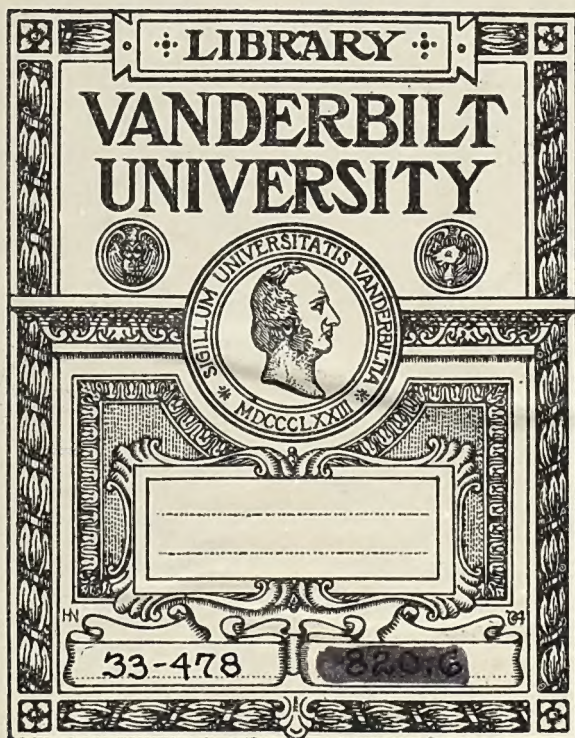
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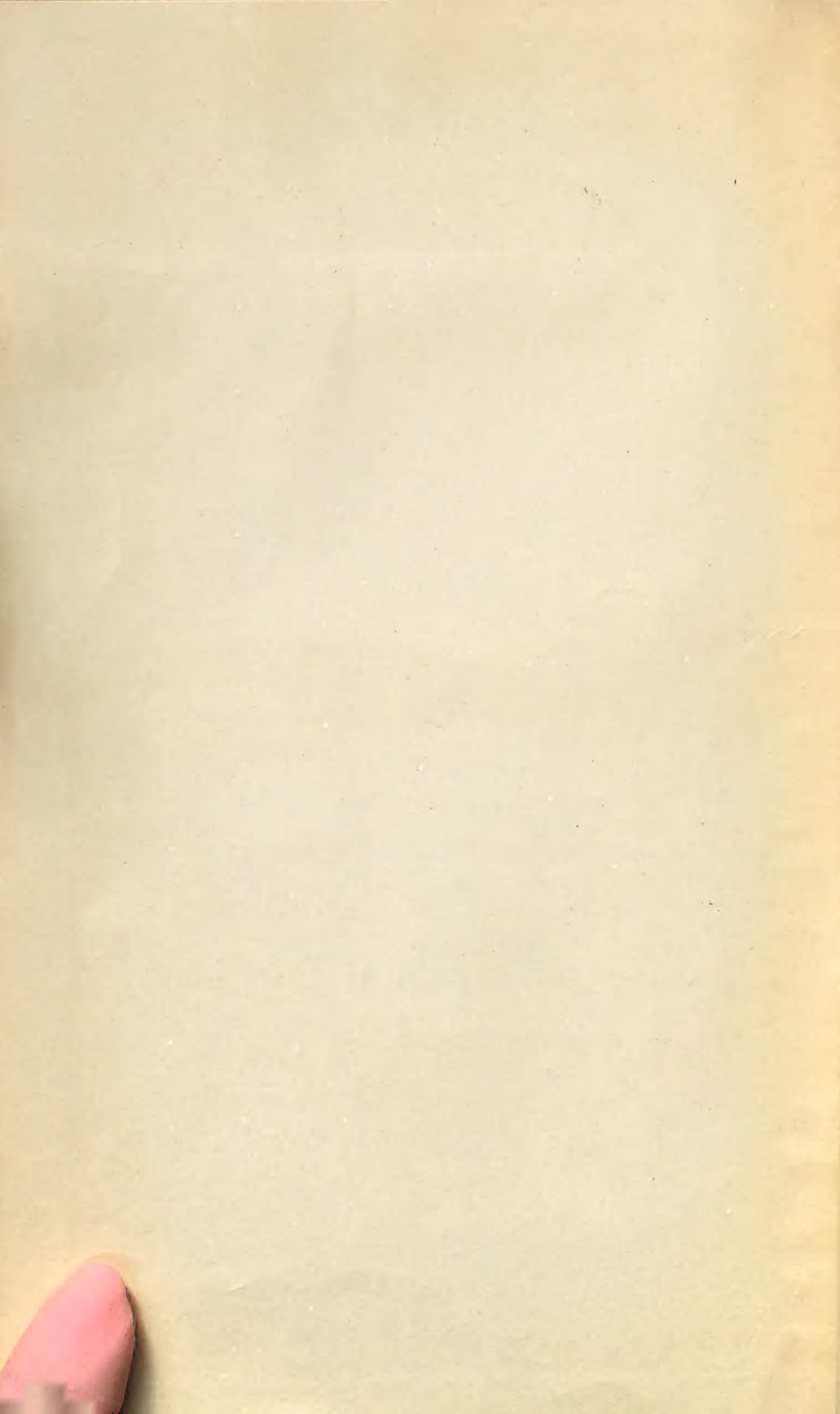
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Lincoln Diocese Documents,
1450-1544.

EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY.

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Lincoln Diocese Documents,

1450-1544.

EDITED, WITH NOTES AND INDEXES,

BY

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PREFATORY NOTE

THE seventy six pre-Reformation documents, the text of which is given in this volume, are contained in official Registers of Bishops of Lincoln, preserved in the Diocesan Registry at Lincoln.

The volume was originally intended to include only sixty three documents, which had been transcribed a long time ago, for the Early English Text Society, under the direction of Dr. F. J. Furnivall. The text of these documents has benefited to an inestimable extent by the devotion and archivist skill of Canon Charles Wilmer Foster, M.A., St. John's College, Oxford; Vicar of Timberland; Canon of Lincoln.

Canon Foster also made known to me the existence of other like documents in the Lincoln Episcopal Registers, which Dr. Furnivall had overlooked; and placed at the disposal of the Society accurate copies of thirteen of the more distinctive of these. Readers of these Additional Documents will readily appreciate how much this volume has gained from this act of scholarly generosity.

I have also to acknowledge, with deep thankfulness, valued corrections and information given me throughout the volume by Canon Foster, and by my old helpers, the Rev. H. E. Salter, M.A., New College, Oxford, and the Rev. F. W. Weaver, M.A., Magdalen College, Oxford,

Vicar of Milton Clevedon, Somersetshire. Other scholars, also, have been most generous in helping me in matters of special difficulty. Through their kindness, the notes possess a far higher value than I could have provided them with.

I hope that the *Grammar Notes* and *Indexes* will make readily accessible the many points of interest, linguistic and historical, of these seventy-six documents.

ANDREW CLARK.

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SIXTY-THREE LINCOLN DIOCESE DOCUMENTS,

1450-1544

Forewords.

THE documents contained in this volume are only a further instalment of the vast and omnigenous mass of material for English studies which we owe to the pioneer instinct and unflagging energy of Dr. F. J. Furnivall. Divining that the Bishops' Registers at Lincoln must contain matters of more immediate interest for English speech and English social history than the formal Latin records of institutions to benefices and of disputed elections to Fellowships or Headships in Oxford Colleges, which were known to bulk largely in them, Dr. Furnivall went to Lincoln, personally inspected the Registers, made a list of the more characteristic of their English or quasi-English documents, and set a copyist to work to transcribe them. Thereafter, Dr. Furnivall examined the transcripts, made notes in them about their subject-matter, and arranged them in order of time. They are now issued, though long after the date of their being brought together, very much in the form into which he had finally put them.

One document, contained in this series as originally put together, does not appear in this volume. This is that most vivid account of Godstow nunnery in 1432 in bishop William Grey's Register, which has been already printed (1913) by E.E.T.S. in an appropriate place (*English Register of Godstow*, pp. lxxxix-xciv.)

I greatly regret that my own few visits to Lincoln have been so short and so fully occupied that I have never been able to go to the Registry and see the Registers for myself. But, on general grounds, I felt that, in the present instance, the copyist's work was excellent. His transcript of every document was (plainly) not only careful, but intelligent. The text has, however, attained to an altogether exceptional standard of exactness, through having been collated with the MS. sources, in a multitude of doubtful places, by Canon C. W. Foster, F.S.A., Secretary and Editor of the Lincoln Record Society.

The sixty-three documents are spread, intermittently, over the years 1450 to 1544, and are of varied character.

It must be remembered (*a*) that the entries in these Registers are all, in one way or other, records of proceedings in an Ecclesiastical Court, and (*b*) that Latin was the official language of such courts. Accordingly, all the more formal proceedings which concern the several matters touched on in this volume appear in a Latin narrative, of an official character. For the benefit of such students of English as may happen to be inexpert with Latin, a sufficient English summary has been given of all these passages, at the editor's risk of being thought pedantic.

Bishops of Lincoln. The Bishops, whose Registers have been laid under contribution in this volume, are—

Marmaduke Lumley, translated from Carlisle, 28 January 14 $\frac{49}{50}$; died 1450.

His Register seems to have continued in use after his decease, since the two wills here taken from it both fall within the episcopate of his successor.

John Chedworth (archdeacon of Wilts.), appointed 11 February 145 $\frac{0}{1}$; died 23 November 1471.

John Longland (Principal of Magdalen Hall, Oxford), appointed 20 March 152 $\frac{0}{1}$; died 7 May 1547.

The first document given here from his Register is the enrolment of an agreement which belongs to the episcopate of one of his predecessors (William Smyth, bishop 1495 to 151 $\frac{3}{4}$).

Wills. The greater part of this volume is occupied with transcripts of wills and records of their probate. The Bishop's Ecclesiastical Court claimed jurisdiction over all Executors and Administrators; admitted them (under bond for faithful discharge of their duties) to execution of their trust; and audited their accounts. The formal record of probate, as has been explained above, is invariably in Latin. This probate record, in several instances, has been abbreviated by the transcriber. In some instances the nominal 'will' is in Latin, but, in these cases, its intentions are usually stated more fully in a codicil which is in English. Generally, however, inasmuch as the will was a document to be carried into effect by people who spoke English, the whole text of it is in English.

The wills are of very varied scope, some short and some long, including, at one end, the great territorial magnate, whose manors

had been scattered over several counties, and who founded for his own sepulture a great chantry-chapel; and, at the other end, the mere husbandman, who sought undistinguished burial in the churchyard of his parish and had at his disposal only his household-stuff, his farm-implements, and his live-stock.

The larger wills are rich in details about several points of antiquarian interest: e.g. the minute directions as to entail by which testators sought to ensure the continuance of estates in their own families; the manifold bequests to servants of different grades, which exemplify the great households kept up by wealthy land-owners; the lavish hospitality extended to all and sundry who attended funeral services; and the variety of intercessory services¹ asked for by testators.

The wills recorded in this volume are thirty-seven in number. They are arranged in order of date of first making, not of date of any later codicil attached to them, or of their probate.

- No. I: 6 May 1450: Joan Buckland, widow: Northamptonshire.
- II: 15 February 145 $\frac{0}{4}$: Sir Thomas Cumberworth, knight: Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.
- III: 23 February 145 $\frac{1}{2}$: Robert Sutton: Lincolnshire.
- IV: 6 June 1452: Robert, 6th baron Willoughby de Eresby: Norfolk and Lincolnshire.
- V: 12 March 145 $\frac{3}{4}$: Richard Archer: Lincolnshire.
- VII: 19 January 145 $\frac{4}{5}$: Joan Raleigh, widow: Oxfordshire.
- VIII: 18 March 145 $\frac{4}{5}$: William, 7th baron Lovel: Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Wiltshire, Warwickshire, and other counties.
- X: 16 November 1456: Gervase Rudd: Lincolnshire.
- XVII: 10 October 1459: Henry Philips, alderman: Oxford city.
- XVIII: 1465: Richard Welby, esquire, Lincolnshire.
- XXII: 17 November 1526: John Denham, cleric: Northamptonshire.
- XXIII: 14 November 1527: John Asserby: Lincolnshire.

¹ *Infra*, p. 8.

- XXIV : 22 July 1529 : John Aldridge : Buckinghamshire.
 XXV : 1 August 1529 : sir John Digby, knight : Leicestershire and Rutland.
 XXVI : 24 March 153 $\frac{2}{3}$: William Knight : Northamptonshire.
 XXVII : 21 April 1533 : Robert Griffith, cleric : Oxfordshire and Wales.
 XXVIII : 13 May 1533 : William Wolhede : Buckinghamshire.
 XXIX : 12 August 1533 : William Gray : Buckinghamshire.
 XXX : 10 September 1533 : Ralph Barker : Buckinghamshire.
 XXXI : 13 October 1533 : Richard Lauford : Buckinghamshire.
 XXXII : 21 October 1533 : Ralph Wooton : Buckinghamshire.
 XXXIII : 22 October 1533 : William Emery : Buckinghamshire.
 XXXIV : 10 November 1533 : Richard Bradley : Leicestershire.
 XXXV : 1533 : John Lee, shopkeeper : Lincolnshire.
 XXXVI : 23 February 153 $\frac{3}{4}$: Thomas Normanton : Rutlandshire.
 XXXVII : 3 March 153 $\frac{3}{4}$: Robert Astbroke : Buckinghamshire.
 XXXVIII : 2 April 1534 : Richard Wormacke : Lincolnshire.
 XLI : 6 January 153 $\frac{4}{5}$: Thomas Fisher : Buckinghamshire.
 XLII : 7 February 153 $\frac{4}{5}$: Gilbert Wigan, cleric : Hertfordshire and Lancashire.
 XLIII : 24 February 153 $\frac{4}{5}$: Richard Baven : Bedfordshire.
 XLIV : 1 March 153 $\frac{4}{5}$: Richard Vicars : Lincolnshire.
 XLVII : 24 July 1535 : William Gybbyns : Rutland.
 XLVIII : 3 October 1535 : William Balon *alias* Benett : Buckinghamshire.
 LVII : 22 March 153 $\frac{7}{8}$: John Joseph, servant of the bishop of Lincoln.

LVIII: 18 May 1538: Thomas Buck, cleric: Buckinghamshire.

LX: 3 September 1540: Richard Newcome: Lincolnshire.

Cathedral and parish church. In almost every will, the testator acknowledges his allegiance to the church of his diocese by a small bequest to the repair-fund (*ad fabricam*, 'to the wark') of Lincoln Minster. In the same way, duty to the parish church is recognized by bequests to the high altar, to the repair-fund, or to particular images or lights in the church.

The bequest to the high altar is often stated to be in amends of 'forgotten tithe', i.e. (in most cases) of unpaid Easter dues.¹ Oxford examples are: 1527 (at St. Michael's Church): received by bequest of the servant of Mr. Cole of Exeter College, to the high altar, for forgotten tithe, 3s. 4d. 1529 (at All Saints): received by bequest of Mr. John Semon, for offerings and tithes forgotten, 6s. 8d.

Mortuaries. In connexion with these wills, one subject is mentioned so repeatedly, and in such different connexions, as to require separate notice. Every now and again, a testator is found giving his executors directions as to payment of a mortuary (*Oseney English Register*, E.E.T.S., xix) for him. Sometimes, a testator assigns a particular animal or piece of apparel for this purpose. Sometimes, a testator leaves it to be determined 'according to custom'. At the end of the period, testators submit to the king's statute. This statute was passed by Parliament in 1529 (21 Henr. VIII., cap. vi: *Statutes at Large*, edit. 1770, vol. ii, pp. 140-1) to determine in what parishes mortuaries ought to be paid, for what persons, and how much; and enacted that, after 1st April 1530, no mortuary (otherwise called *corse*² *present*) should be asked otherwise than as this Act allowed.

The provisions of the Act, which concern the wills here printed, are these:

(A) as regards parishes in which mortuaries might be asked:

(i) no mortuary might be asked except in parishes where it had been usual for mortuaries to be asked and paid.

¹ See *infra*, p. 25.

² i. e. corpse.

This provision shows that the exaction of this fee was not universally prevalent, but that some parishes were free from it.

(ii) only one mortuary might be asked in respect of any deceased person, and that only in the place of deceased's usual abode.

This provision deals with such cases as (a) the deceased having separate estates in the same parish; (b) the deceased having estates in more than one parish; (c) the deceased dying, on a journey or on a visit, in some parish other than the parish of his usual abode. Sir Thomas Cumberworth's (no. II) bequest (145⁹/₁) of three mortuaries, one at each of his three principal estates, belongs to the earlier, and more burdensome, form of the custom.

(B) as regards persons in respect of whom mortuaries might be asked :

A mortuary might be asked only where the deceased (a) was a householder; and (b) had, at the time of death, movable goods, when all debts had been paid, to the value of over ten marks (£6 13s. 4d.).

This excluded from charges for mortuary—

- (i) all married women;
- (ii) all children;
- (iii) all adults who were only inmates, not heads of households;
- (iv) all persons of less estate than is above said.

(C) as regards legal amount of claim for mortuaries :

Where the estate, all debts paid, was

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| (i) above £6 13s. 4d. but under £30, the mortuary might be | 3s. 4d. ; |
| (ii) above £30 but under £40 | „ „ 6s. 8d. ; |
| (iii) above £40 | „ „ 10s. 0d. |

But, in all parishes in which old custom had fixed the mortuary at a lower rate than the above table, the old rate was to continue.

All persons aggrieved by excessive claim for mortuary might recover at law the sum of forty shillings from any parson, vicar, curate, parish-priest, or other spiritual person, or their fermours, bailiffs, or lessees, who demanded more than the Act allowed.

But, by a special section in the Act, clergy were allowed 'to take and receive any manner of sums of money, or other thing' which deceased persons, by their will, might bequeath to them personally or to the high altar of their church.

It is, perhaps, worth while to set down—as showing how severely this Act limited the old claim for mortuaries, a few actual mortuaries charged in All Saints and St. Michael's Northgate parishes, Oxford. The records are found, in the Bursar's Account for the year named in each case, in the archives of Lincoln College, Oxford; and, up till now, have remained unpublished.

Mortuaries were charged for wayfarers in the parish in which they died :

1509 (at All Saints) 22*d.* for the mortuary of Mr. Jefford's servant who died in Oxford. (Mr. Jefford was tenant of a Lincoln College manor at Bushbury in Staffordshire, and this servant had come to Oxford to pay his master's rent.)

1510 (at All Saints) 2*s.* 4*d.*, for the mortuary of a stranger woman who died in the parish ; (at St. Michael's) 9*s.*, for the mortuary of a stranger.

Mortuaries were charged for married women :

1487 (at All Saints), received for the mortuary of Ashley's ¹ wife (viz. a gown which Ashley bought back), 10*s.* 4*d.*

1509 (at St. Michael's), 8*s.*, for the mortuary of an innkeeper's wife.

Mortuaries were charged for young people :

1507 (at St. Michael's) 6*d.*, for a lad's gown taken as a mortuary.

Mortuaries were charged for inmates of houses, who were not householders ; and for servants :

1509 (at All Saints) 6*s.*, for the mortuary of Beyston's sister.

1517 (at All Saints) 5*s.*, for the mortuary of William Frere's brother.

1514 (at All Saints) 3*s.*, for the mortuary of John Kyng's maid-servant.

1527 (at All Saints) 10*d.* for the mortuary of Robert Mundy's man-servant.

Mortuaries were charged for quite poor people :

1509 (at St. Michael's) 12*d.*, for the mortuary of Henry Seth's apprentice.

1510 (at All Saints) 20*d.*, for the mortuary of a poor woman ; (at St. Michael's) 16*d.*, for the mortuary of Thomas Smyth, a poor scholar.

1517 (at All Saints) 8*d.*, for the mortuary of a poor fellow at the barber's.

1527 (at All Saints) 6*d.*, for the mortuary of Maurice the labourer.

Mortuaries had formerly considerably exceeded the 10*s.* allowed in the Act :

¹ Ashley was a tailor, *infra*, p. 31.

1487 (at All Saints) for Mr. Wither's gown [a mortuary], 20s.

1509 (at All Saints) 20s. for the mortuary of John Lynch, apothecary, and for the composition for wax [i. e. for the use at the funeral of the wax-tapers belonging to the church: but this charge when mentioned separately is generally put at 12d.].

1509 (at All Saints), 16s. 8d. for the mortuary of Thomas Lyttstar.

1509 (at St. Michael's) 23s. 4d., for Helen Rogers' mortuary.

Funeral and Commemorative Services. It may prove convenient to put here an outline of the services asked for by testators in these wills, with a summary of some hitherto unpublished documents which supply exact details concerning them.

The funeral services were three in number; (i) the Vespers of the Office of the Dead; (ii) the Matins of the Office of the Dead; (iii) the Mass for the Dead. All these were special services, differing in details from the ordinary Vespers, Matins, and Mass.

(i) **The Vespers-service** took place on the evening before the funeral-day. It was known as *Placebo*, because it began with the Antiphon *Placebo Domino in regione vivorum* (Psalm cxv. 9, in the Vulgate¹).

(ii) **The Matins-service** took place nominally soon after midnight, but in practice considerably later.² It was known as *Dirige* (in a great variety of spellings), because it began with the antiphon *Dirige, Domine, Deus meus, in conspectu tuo viam meam* (founded on Psalm v. 9, in the Vulgate version³).

It would appear that a large attendance of priests and clerks was desired to give impressiveness to the *Placebo* and *Dirige* services, and that this end was secured by assigning the singing of particular Psalms and antiphons, and the reading of particular collects and lessons, to different persons. This seems the intention of Henry Philips (no. XVII) in his will, 1459. In Dr. Furnivall's *Political, Religious, and Love Poems* (E.E.T.S.; 1866 and re-edited 1903), there is, pp. 6-11, a satirical *Placebo* and *Dirige* for the hated Duke of Suffolk, beheaded 1450. In this, in verses

¹ Psalm 116. 9, in the English Prayer Book ('I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living').

² Lord Lovel (no. VIII) directed Matins of the day in his chapel to begin on Sunday at 6 a.m., and the

Mass of the day to be said immediately after Matins.

³ Psalm 5. 8, in English Prayer Book ('Lead me, O Lord . . . make thy way plain before my face').

5 to 7, the *Placebo* service is divided into twelve successive sections, each of which is assigned to a different singer or reader. In the same way, in verses 9-28, the much longer *Dirige* service is divided into forty-two sections, each rendered by a different person, after which come two hymns (the *Dies irae* being one of them).

It is, of course, more than likely that this satire exaggerates what was usual, in order to bring in the names of as many adherents of the hated Suffolk as was possible, but, unless these familiar services had been commonly portioned out in this way among different persons, such partition would not have been made, even in parody.

Verse 12 in the satire parodies the mention-by-name (*nota*, pp. 11, 12) of the persons specially prayed for in the service.

In the authorized forms of both the Vespers (*Placebo*) and the Matins (*Dirige*), provision was made, in certain of the Collects, for mention by name of the deceased and of his friends. This mention in Latin was called *cum nota*. The Vespers and Matins are sometimes vaguely spoken of conjointly under the name Exequies.

(iii) **The Mass for the Dead** was known as the Mass of *Requiem*, from its Introit *Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine; et lux perpetua luceat eis* (= Rest eternal give them, O Lord; and let light unceasing lighten them).

In this Mass, in certain of the Collects used in it which had previously been used in the Exequies, as well as in the special Mass-Collects known as the *Secretum* and the *Post-Communio*, mention by name of the deceased person and of his friends was made.

To ensure sufficient attendance of worshippers at their *Dirige* and at their *Requiem Mass*, testators are often found making special bequests of meat, of drink, and of money, to those present at the two services.

On the thirtieth day after the decease or burial, special care was taken to provide for a repetition of the three services. This day, and its services, were known as the *trigintale*, the *trentale*, the 'trentall' (no. XXXII; no. XLII), the 'thirty-day', the 'month's mind' (no. LVIII).

But occasionally (as *infra* 52/20) testators directed that these services should have been said also on the seventh day (called 'the sevensnight') after the decease or burial. They had, no doubt, in

view, the natural sequence—the day, the day week, the day month, to be followed by the day year.

The will (no. XXXII) of Ralph Wotton, 1533, supplies an unusual repetition of the month's-mind, viz., that it should be observed monthly for a whole year.

Further, testators of sufficient means were careful to have these services repeated on the day-year of the decease. This was called the *anniversarius*, the *obitus*, the 'anniversary' (no. XXXVI); the 'year's-mind', or 'year-day' (no. XVIII), 'or twelve-months mind' (no. XXII).

This yearly commemoration was often continued¹ for a term of years, in terms of a will; or, by permanent endowment, for ever. To secure due attendance at the anniversary, or obit,² as it was variously called, testators are found making careful provisos as to the sum-total required on each occasion, and as to the mode of its distribution among those present.

Still wealthier people provided for daily intercessory services, during a term of years; or, by permanent endowment, for ever. Lord Lovel's will (no. VIII) is a notable instance of the foundation of such a *cantaria*, chantry (*Godstow English Register*, E.E.T.S., 1913, p. xxx).

It so happens that in the case of John Denham, whose will, in an abbreviated form, is found in these documents (no. XXII), it is possible to set out distinctly the whole procedure, from his *compositio*³ with Lincoln College, Oxford (Latin text in William Vesey's 1710 MS. *Exemplificatio cartarum nostrarum* in the College Archives, lf. 67).

Agreement with John Denham, rector of Barnake.

'To all to whom this indenture may come John Cottysford, D.D., Warden or Rector of the College of the Blessed Mary and All Saints in Oxford, commonly called Lyncolne College, and the Fellows or Scholars of the same, send greeting.

'Having compassion on the insufficiently endowed state of our

¹ But not necessarily on the day of the actual anniversary; but on a day fixed by agreement (p. 11 n. 4).

² *Godstow English Register*, E.E.T.S., 1913, p. xxviii.

³ Formal written agreement.

College, John Denham, a former Fellow, now rector of Barnake in Northamptonshire, has bestowed on the College the sum of £20.

'In gratitude for this benefaction the Rector and Fellows undertake, for themselves and their successors—

'to observe the death-day of Mr. John Denham (so soon as the news of it reaches the college), with *Placebo* and *Dirige* on the first day¹, *cum nota*²; and with a Mass of Requiem on the next day, making use of the prayer of the Office of the Dead, viz., *Deus*³. *cui proprium est miserere et parcere, propitiare animae famuli tui Iohannis sacerdotis*, both in the Mass and in the Exequies; and, in the mass, using a fitting *Secretum* and a fitting *Post-Communio*.

'The College is to pay to those present at this Mass and the Exequies, viz. to the Rector 12*d.* and to each Fellow, 6*d.*

'Every year after Denham's decease, he is to be commemorated at the anniversary service⁴ which the executors of Thomas Bekyn-ton, bishop of Bath and Wells, had provided for that prelate in Lincoln College, Oxford, by mention, as *John, a priest, our benefactor*, in the Collect for Benefactors in the *Placebo* and *Dirige* services [*Deus*⁵ *cuius misericordiae non est numerus, suscipe propitijs preces humilitatis nostrae pro anima famuli tui Iohannis sacerdotis, benefactoris nostri*]; and by like mention of him by name and benefaction (in the Mass of Requiem) in Collect, Secretum, and Post-Communio.

'Given in Lincoln College, 30 June, 19 Henry VIII (1527).'

Agreement with Edmund Audley, bishop of Salisbury.

In the same MS. (Vesey's *Exemplificatio*, *supra*, p. 10), ff. 62, there are the arrangements made, 8 June, 10 Henry VIII (1518), by Edmund Audley, bishop of Salisbury (died 23 August 1524), for his obit⁶ to be kept yearly in Lincoln College, Oxford, which are even more precise in their specifying of the commemoration by name, and therefore may be set down briefly here as illustrating

¹ It was more usual to count the *Dirige* as belonging to the second day.

² *Infra*, p. 12.

³ 'O God, whose property is ever to have mercy and forgive, have mercy on the soul of thy servant, John, a priest.'

⁴ Kept on January 16: Clark's

Lincoln College (1898), p. 24.

⁵ 'O God, whose mercy is beyond reckoning, graciously accept our humble prayers for the soul of thy servant, John, a priest, our benefactor.'

⁶ Kept yearly on 23 August so long as obits were legal.

considerable parts of sir Thomas Cumberworth's will (no. II) and of Lord Lovel's will (no. VIII).

Yearly, bishop Audley's obit is to be observed in Lincoln College chapel, with Exequies on the night preceding and Mass of Requiem next day.

The Collect¹ is to be used: *Deus qui inter apostolicos sacerdotes famulum tuum Edmundum pontificem, benefactorem nostrum, pontificali fecisti dignitate vigere.*

In the *Secretum* these words are to be used: *Offerimus² tibi, Domine, oblationem nostrae servitutis pro anima famuli tui, Edmundi, pontificis, benefactoris nostri.*

In the *Post-Communio* these words are to be used: *Proficiat,³ queso, Domine, animae famuli tui Edmundi, pontificis, benefactoris nostri*; after which the celebrant is to go on to say—'and also to the souls of James Tuchet late lord Audley,⁴ and his wife Eleanor (the bishop's parents), and to the souls of all the bishop's friends and benefactors'.

Further intercession is to be made for the bishop's parents and benefactors, by the use of—

(a) the Orison or Collect: *Concede, queso, Domine Deus noster, ut anima famuli tui Iacobi, anima famule tue Alianore, et anime famulorum famularumque tuarum quorum quarumque memoriam et commemorationem speciali devotione agimus: Grant, I pray thee, O Lord our God, that the soul of thy servant James, the soul of thy handmaid Eleanor, and the souls of thy servants and handmaids whose memory and anniversary we are especially observing (may enter the abode of peace and bliss, &c.):*

(b) the *Secretum*: *Haec munera, queso, Domine, quae oculis tuae maiestatis offerimus, anime famuli tui Iacobi: May these offerings, I pray thee, O God, which we present to the eyes of thy Divine Majesty (be of benefit) to the soul of thy servant James, to the soul of thy handmaid Eleanor, and to the souls, &c.*

¹ Provided in the Office, with the necessary variation of word or a bishop or a priest: 'O God, who amongst the priests of thy apostolic church hast caused to flourish with the dignity of a bishop, thy servant, bishop Edmund, our benefactor.'

² 'We present to thee, O Lord, the

offering of our bounden service for the soul of thy servant, bishop Edmund, our benefactor.'

³ 'Let (this sacrifice) be of benefit, I pray thee, O Lord, to the soul of thy servant, bishop Edmund, our benefactor.'

⁴ Beheaded, 1497.

(c) the Post-Communion: *Deus, qui inestimabili misericordia animas mortalium ab angustis transfers ad requiem, propitiare supplicationibus nostris pro anima*: O God, who, of thy inestimable mercy, translatest the souls of men from anguish to rest, be favourable to our prayers for the soul of thy servant James, &c.

The College further undertook, for the health of bishop Audley's soul, to pay yearly, on his anniversary, to those who had been present at the Exequies from the versicle ¹ *Audivi vocem* ² to the antiphon ³ *Ego sum* ⁴ and at the Mass from the first *Kyrie, eleison* (said after the Introit) to the third *Agnus Dei* (said after the Consecration of the elements): viz.—

to the Rector, 2s.; to each of the 12 Fellows, 12d.; to each of the two chaplains, ⁵ 8d.; to the Bible-clerk, 4d.; and to a poor-scholar ⁶ (*pauperculus*), 4d.;

and a pittance ⁷ of 4s. on that day to augment the fare at the College table.

Further, the College was to invite to bishop Audley's anniversary service in Lincoln College chapel the Vice-chancellor of Oxford University, the two Proctors, the Keeper of the Audley chest, the Esquire Bedells, and the Yeomen Bedells; and to each of these who attends and offers ⁸ a mass-penny on the alms-plate, the College was to pay—to the Vice-chancellor, 20d.; to each Proctor, 12d.; to the Keeper of the Audley chest, 12d.; and to each Bedell, 4d.

This obit was first kept on 23 August, 1525. For so long as this service was allowed by law the Vice-chancellor, both Proctors, the Keeper of the Audley chest, and 2, 3, or 4 Bedells attended yearly and received their doles.

In addition to the special and individual Masses celebrated for him, a testator sometimes bargained for mention by name in all other Masses celebrated by such priests as, directly or indirectly,

¹ It comes towards the end of Lauds (the last part of Matins).

² 'I heard a voice from heaven saying': Rev. 14. 13.

³ It precedes the Psalm *De Profundis* (cxix, Vulgate=Psalm 130, English).

⁴ 'I am the resurrection and the life': St. John 11. 25.

⁵ i.e. of All Saints and St. Michael's.

⁶ Generally the butler of the College.

⁷ *Godstow English Register* (E. E. T. S., 1913), p. xxxii.

⁸ 'Qui unicum denarium tunc et ibidem offeret ac super scuto sive decusculatorio deponet.'

benefited by his benefaction. Thus¹ in Lincoln College, Oxford, Edmund Audley, bishop of Salisbury, bargained (1518) that, at all week-day Masses celebrated in Lincoln College Chapel by any Fellow of the College, the celebrant, during the bishop's life, should make use of the Orison² *Rege, queso, Domine, famulum tuum, Edmundum, pontificem, benefactorem nostrum*, with suitable mention in Secretum and Post-Communio; and also pray for the souls of the bishop's parents (James Tuchett lord Audley and his wife Eleanor) and the souls of the bishop's friends and benefactors, making use of the orison⁴ *Concede, queso, Domine Deus noster, ut anima famuli tui Iacobi, anima amule tue Alianore, et anime famulorum famularumque tuarum quorumcunque vel quarumcunque commemorationem speciali devotione agimus*, and making fitting mention of them in Secretum and Post-Communio;—

And, after the bishop's death, shall mention him by name in the ordinary Collect⁵ of the Mass of the Dead: *Deus, cuius misericordie non est numerus, suscipe propitius pro anima famuli tui Edmundi pontificis, benefactoris nostri*; shall continue the prayer for the bishop's parents (*Concedo, queso, Domine*: as above⁶); and make fitting mention of him and his parents in Secretum and Post-Communio.

These provisions are typical of the arrangements made, at this period, for intercessory services. They explain, distinctly and fully, what sir John Digby, in 1529, in his will (no. XXV), expected in the way of personal mention in ordinary Masses said by his chantry-priest in Melton Mowbray church. So also Thomas Buck, 1538, in his will (no. LVIII) asks that every Mass said by a conventual priest may be used to commemorate him, by substituting the funeral Psalm⁷ (*De profundis clamavi ad te*) for the ordinary Psalm⁸ (*Lauda, anima mea, Dominum*) at the end of Lauds just before beginning Mass.

¹ *Supra*, p. 11.

² Oratio.

³ 'Direct, I pray thee, O Lord, thy servant, bishop Edmund, our benefactor.'

⁴ 'Grant, O Lord our God, that the soul of thy servant James, the soul of thy handmaid Eleanor, and the souls of thy servants and handmaids whose

memory we observe specially': see *supra*, p. 12.

⁵ *Supra*, p. 11.

⁶ *Supra*, p. 12.

⁷ Psalm cxxix (130, in English: 'Out of the deep have I called unto thee').

⁸ Psalm cxlv (146, in English: 'Praise the Lord, O my soul').

Leases of prebendal estates. Next in number and volume, to the documents concerned with wills, are those eight which relate to leases of estates belonging to prebendships in Lincoln Minster.

A prebendship was a place of dignity among the clergy of the Minster, which had had settled on it an endowment for the maintenance of its prebendary. The prebendship was named from the parish in which its estate lay, but some prebendships had land in more than one parish. The land seems to have come, in some cases, by grant of manorial land (as apparently¹ in the case of the Buckinghamshire manor, no. XXXIX, possessed by Heydour prebend); in other cases, by appropriation of a rectory, as at Langford, Oxfordshire (no. LXI), and at Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire (no. XLV).

Inasmuch as a prebendary held the prebendal estate only so long as he retained his prebendship, it was impossible for any prebendary, of his own single authority, to grant any lease of the estate which would be at all binding on his successor. When, therefore, it seemed desirable, for the management of such estates, that leases for terms of years should be granted, the assents of the Dean and Chapter and of the Bishop had to be obtained.

The assent of the Dean and Chapter is expressly mentioned in the case of Leighton Buzzard (no. XLV) and Leighton Bromeswold (no. LXII) prebends. The Dean and Chapter's confirmation of no. XLV is recorded in Bishop Longland's Register of Memoranda, lf. 266. Others are probably enrolled in the Chapter-Acts of the Minster.

Ratification by the Bishop involved two acts, (i) affixing his smaller seal to the indentures; (ii) causing the indentures, so confirmed by him, to be enrolled in his Register.

A Bishop had two distinct official seals; a larger one which was attached to the more important deeds issued by his authority; and a smaller one, employed on occasions of less weight or ceremony. This smaller seal was described as his 'seal *ad causas*', and is constantly mentioned as used to ratify these prebendal leases. In the same way, Oxford Colleges had, and have, two seals — the 'College seal', used in such transactions as conveyance of land; and the 'College seal *ad negotia*', used when letters testimonial

¹ And so also Langford Manor prebend, incidentally mentioned in no. LXI.

are issued, e.g., to candidates for Holy Orders. See and College followed the King's example (no. XV) in his great seal and privy seal.

These leases, incidentally, give odd scraps of information about different perquisites and different burdens of some of the prebendships.

In some cases, the advowson of the church of the parish, where the prebendal estate was, belonged to the prebend; as, e.g., at Leighton Buzzard (Bedfordshire), at Cropredy and at Langford (both in Oxfordshire), and at East Stoke (Nottinghamshire).

Some prebends, where the prebendary took the great tithe and was 'rector' of the parish, were responsible for the repair of the chancel of their respective churches, as, e.g., Leighton Buzzard, and Langford. Stoke prebend was responsible for the repair of the chancels of four parishes (in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire).

Some prebends had to pay part, or the whole, of the stipend of the parish-priest where their estate lay. Thus, Carlton Kyme prebend had to pay the priest's stipend both at Carlton and at Dalby (Lincolnshire). Stoke prebend had to pay half the priest's stipend at Rauceby, Lincolnshire.

Probably all the prebends paid dues to Lincoln Minster. Such dues are expressly mentioned in the cases of Cropredy, Carlton Kyme, Langford, and Stoke.

Most of the eight leases give noticeable examples of the usual covenants as to repairs, as to dates and places of payment of rent, as to powers of distraint and re-entry, and as to bonds which lessor and lessee entered into for due observance of their covenants. The covenants as to timber at Cropredy and Leighton Bromeswold deserve attention; and so also at St. John Baptist's Hospital, Mere.

There are good examples of the way in which a landowner secured for himself lodging and stabling, at his tenant's charge, when he visited an outlying estate, e.g. at Heydour, and at Leighton Buzzard; and at St. John Baptist's Hospital, Mere.

The manorial formula (*Godstow English Register*, E.E.T.S. lv.) occurs at Walton Manor, Buckinghamshire (owned by Heydour prebend) in the form which was generally in use at this period (no. XXXIX). Another instance of the formula, with some variations, is found (no. LI) in the case of the manor of Mere Hospital, Lincolnshire.

The particulars of the eight prebendal leases mentioned are as follows:

- No. XXXIX: Heydour *cum* Walton prebend: 19 May 1534: lease of Walton manor (Buckinghamshire): 61 years.
- XLV: Leighton Buzzard prebend: 8 April 1535: lease of rectory and prebend at Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire: 36 years.
- L: Cropredy prebend: 20 February 153 $\frac{5}{8}$: lease of estate at Cropredy, Oxfordshire: 30 years.
- LII: Carlton Kyme (*alias* Carlton *cum* Dalby) prebend: 26 June 1536: estates at North Carlton and Dalby, Lincolnshire: 40 years.
- LIV: Welton Brinkhall prebend: 29 September 1536: estate at Welton (near Lincoln), Lincolnshire: 51 years.
- LXI: Langford Ecclesia prebend: 22 March 154 $\frac{1}{2}$: estate at Langford, Oxfordshire: 30 years.
- LXII: Leighton Bromeswold prebend: 12 May 1543: land at Leighton Bromeswold, Huntingdonshire: 40 years.
- LXIII: Stoke prebend: 27 April 1544: lands and tithes in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire: 50 years.

Of exactly the same nature, and requiring the Bishop's confirmation for the same reason and in the same way, is the lease, no. LI, of St. John Baptist's Hospital, Mere, Lincolnshire, 23 April 1536, for 21 years.

Other church and chantry agreements. Just as the Bishop's formal and enrolled sanction was needed to give validity to leases of prebendal estates, so it was required in regard to other agreements between ecclesiastical persons, or in regard to parish churches. In the present series there are five documents of this sort formally enrolled:

- No. XIII: 12 July 1458: agreement between the Master of the Chantry at Chalgrave, Bedfordshire, and one of the Chantry priests.
- XX: 1464: appeal by Bruerne Abbey, Oxfordshire, to King Edward IV, to have

a re-grant of the rectory of Wootton (near Woodstock), Oxfordshire.

No. XXI: 29 June 1509: agreement by Barlings Abbey, Lincolnshire, to augment, temporarily, the stipend of the vicar of Reepham, Lincolnshire.

XL: 27 December 1534: agreement between the rector of Syresham (in Northamptonshire), and Bidglesden Abbey, Buckinghamshire, as to certain tithes in Syresham parish.

LIX: 14 March 153⁸₉: lease by Lincoln College, Oxford, to the parishioners of All Saints, in Oxford city, of the vicarial income of their parish, on condition that they provide and pay their parish-priest.

Disciplinary acts of the Bishop in his Ecclesiastical Court.
There are five documents relating to proceedings taken against violators of the Canons :

No. VI: 31 December 1454: certificate from Hampshire that the wife of a Buckinghamshire man is still alive there. But there is no record of proceedings in this (presumably matrimonial) case.

XI: 1457: a lengthy account of objections to the Church sacraments which had been urged by certain Huntingdonshire Lollards, and of the severe penance enjoined them on their recantation.

XII: 1457: proceedings taken against an inhabitant of the town of Hertford, for practising necromancy.

XVI: 1459: proceedings against Richard Pyckard, a duly licensed proctor in the Bishop of Lincoln's Consistorial Court, convicted of forgery and impersonation.

XIX: 1465: severe penance imposed in consequence of the desecration of Grantham churchyard, by assault and effusion of blood there.

Widows' Vows. In these documents there are four separate instances of solemn vows publicly taken upon them by widows, before the Bishop, and formally recorded in the Bishop's Register:

These are—

No. IX: 1456: Joan Stretton: of Lincoln diocese: in Merton College Chapel, Oxford.

XIV: 1458: Isabel Portyngton: of Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire, in Black Friars Church, Oxford.

XV: 1459: Joan Manfeld: in Black Friars Church, Oxford.

LIII: 1536: Agnes Wigston: of Leicester town; in the Bishop's Chapel at Buckden, Huntingdonshire.

In each case, the vow itself is in English; and follows, more or less, the words of a set formula. But the record of enrolment is in the formal Latin of the Bishop's official Register. The additional circumstances, that the vow was made during the celebration of Mass, and in presence of the diocesan attired in his episcopal robes, shows that the step thus taken was regarded as of exceptional solemnity and importance.

All remembrance of this vow has, however, so entirely died out in England that I may be permitted to set down here the facts connected with it, from information very courteously given me by Rev. F. E. Brightman, Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford.

(i) In the earliest age, a list of widows was kept who were entitled to receive support from the alms of the Church (cp. 1 Tim. cap. 5, with Acts 6, verse 1; Eusebius, *Historia Ecclesiastica*, vi. 43 § 11, &c.).

Three of the four votresses in these documents bring their vow formally into connexion with 1 Tim. cap. 5, by the statement that it is 'after the rule of St. Paul'.

(ii) In a later age, widows (whether supported directly by the alms of the Church, or not, is not distinctly apparent) are found in a sort of clerical Order, charged with the duties of visiting the sick and of continual prayer for the welfare of the Church (*Clementine Constitutions*, 18).

(iii) In the monastic age, just as unmarried women took

vows of chastity and virginity, so widows took like vows of continued widowhood and chastity (*Apostolical Constitutions*, III. 1; S. Ambrose, *de Viduis*; S. Augustine, *de bono Viduitatis*), and, after their vow, wore a dress distinctive of their status.

Of these, there were (for a time at least), in the Western Church, two sections:

(a) Widows, who, having taken this vow, were required to live in convents, and so became undistinguishable from nuns;

(b) Widows, who, having taken this vow, continued in secular life. These often acted as deaconesses, and had assigned to them the duties appertaining to the office of deaconess (e.g. at the baptism of women).

So regular an institution was the *viduata* order in the mediaeval Church that there was a special office for taking this vow: see Edmond Martène, *de antiquis Ecclesiae ritibus* (1702), II. vii. There is an English example in Rev. H. A. Wilson's *The Pontifical of Magdalen College* (edited for Henry Bradshaw Society, 1910), pp. 86 sqq.

From this mediaeval office, it will not be out of place to give here, in an English version, the—

*Blessing of the robes of a widow who has taken on herself
the vow of chastity.*

‘O God, maker of all things seen and unseen, of Thy goodness be present now, to bless with the shedding upon them of the dew of Thy grace these robes, the visible token of a holy life, and to hallow them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.’

[Then shall the votress herself take up her veil and place it over her head:

As also the—

Blessing after the taking upon her of the veil.

‘Comfort, O Lord, this Thy handmaiden, now bounden to widowhood and to labour in good works, even as Thou didst vouchsafe to comfort the widow of Sarepta by Elijah the prophet. Grant to her fruits meet for chastity, that she may forget all pleasure of her former estate, and may be wholly without promptings to vice, so that she may submit her neck altogether to Thy yoke only, and thereby may, in return for all her toils, receive, in

sixty-fold measure, the delectable gift of holiness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.'

What were the personal and subsidiary reasons which moved English widows, as late as the latter half of the fifteenth and the middle of the sixteenth centuries, to undertake this ancient vow? Several conjectures are possible, but are only bare conjectures.

Socially, and personally, the vow may have been an effective protection against importunities of unwelcome suitors, or against family pressure to take another mate.

Pecuniarily, the votress may have stood a better chance of obtaining a definite appointment as a paid deaconess, or an anchoress or *reclusa*. These latter places were sometimes possessed of endowment of some sort, and often were remembered in wills of pious people. Thus, in 1533, John Lee, of Fenny Stratford, made a bequest 'to the ancrysse of Poulys'. In 1450^o, Sir Thomas Cumberworth, in his bequest to a *reclusa* in Lincoln city, placed her on the same scale as the most favoured head of any Lincoln priory of nuns.

Estates of the See. There is, in this set, one document which stands by itself, no. LVI. It refers to a dispute as to rights of common between the tenants of Uppingham manor and the bishop of Lincoln's tenants at Lyddington, Rutland, apparently in 1538.

Henry VIII's Acts. Three considerable documents deal with Henry VIII's church-legislation:

No. XLVI: 19 June 1535: orders by which the Bishop of Lincoln directed acceptance, throughout his diocese, of the king's claim to be 'Supreme Head on earth' of the Anglican Church, and required erasure, from all Church books, of all expressions which gave the bishop of Rome the style of 'Pope' (*Latin* 'Papa') or which countenanced the Pope's supremacy.

XLIX: two letters, undated, but one probably of 1535, and the second of a year later, in which the Bishop of Lincoln complained to his archdeacons that the claim of the king to be 'Supreme Head on earth' of the Anglican Church had been preached against, and that

the king's directions¹ as to bidding-prayers had been disregarded.

LV: 153 $\frac{6}{7}$: covering letter by the Bishop of Lincoln, enclosing the king's orders for the discontinuance of the public and compulsory observance of several troublesome Holy-days, which interrupted business during the Law-terms, and delayed the harvesting of the crops.

All Saints Church and Parish, Oxford. These documents include (no. LIX) a long and remarkable lease² of the 'vicarage' of their parish to the parishioners of All Saints. The stipulations of this are so singular as to require explanation from outside sources.

All Saints parish was a small parish in the very heart of Oxford. Its church was originally a nave and chancel³, of Decorated period, continuous with each other, the chancel window being of three lights, the three (or four) lower nave windows all of two lights, with several small two-light windows in the clere-story. On the south side of the chancel was added a considerable Lady-chapel⁴, of Decorated style; on the north, rather an ugly but apparently Early English chantry-chapel. There was a square western tower, surmounted by a tall octagonal stone spire. This steeple fell eastwards in 1 $\frac{6}{7}$ $\frac{9}{10}$, crushing in the church. The present church was erected 1708.

Rectory of All Saints. The parish was originally a Rectory, with some sort of estate belonging to it.

'*Vicarage*' of All Saints. It passed into the possession of S. Frideswyde's Priory, Oxford, and, with the consent of Hugh de Wells, Bishop of Lincoln, was subjected (*circ.* 1220) to a yearly pension of 40s. payable to that convent. By Anthony Wood (*City of Oxford*, ii. 109) this is represented as involving reduction to a vicarage, but that is more than doubtful⁵ (*ibid.*, iii. 73). In 1326 the church passed into the patronage of the see of Lincoln.

A member of the Collegiate Church of the Blessed Mary and All

¹ Not recorded in these documents. *City of Oxford*, iii. 152.

² *Supra*, p. 18.

³ Afterwards known as 'the College Chancel'; Wood's *City of Oxford*, iii. 145.

⁴ 'The Parish Chancel': Wood's

⁵ The bishop of Lincoln's Register of Institutions, in 1403, speaks of the 'rector' of All Saints, Oxford; Wood's *City of Oxford*, iii. 74.

Saints, Oxford. In 1427, Richard Flemyng, bishop of Lincoln, made use¹ of this church as a means towards finding a seat for, and providing part of the endowment of, his newly founded Collegiate Church (afterwards known as Lincoln College, Oxford). This arrangement was definitely confirmed by Thomas Rotherham, bishop of Lincoln, in 1478.

Under Rotherham's arrangements no steps were to be taken to serve the cure of All Saints parish by a permanent vicar.² The College was to provide a yearly stipend³ of 53s. 4d., by which a 'chaplain' was to be hired to discharge all the duties incumbent on a parish priest. This chaplain was to be appointed, and removed, by the Rector of Lincoln College, at his own pleasure. Throughout Lent, however, this chaplain was always to have the assistance of a Fellow of the College in his sacerdotal functions.

The College was to pay all tenths and other charges due by the church; to keep the chancel in repair; and to provide communion-elements, incense, consecrated oil, tapers, and candles, e.g.⁴—

'1514, to John Cook, for whygt-lymyng the chauncell in All-halon cherch, 3s.; for glasyng off the wyndoo in the chancell of All halon chyrche, 3s.'

'1508, for howsling⁵ [bread and] wine [at All Saints], 20d.; for howsling bred and wine [at St. Michael's], 11½d.; for singing wine and brede for the whole yere [for both churches], 19d.'

'1512, pro pane celebrabili pro toto anno, 18d.; pro vino celebrabili pro toto anno, 10s. 2d.; pro pane communicabili pro ecclesiis nostris, 4d.; pro vino communicabili pro ecclesiis nostris, 20d.'

'1520, expensa in ecclesiis: pro pane celebrabili, 4s. 6d.; pro vino celebrabili, 18s. 1d.; pro pane communicabili, 6d.; pro vino communicabili, 2s. 2d.'

'1505, pro thure⁶ [for All Saints], 5½d.

1507, for frankynsence, 6d.

1529, pro 1 libra et dim. thuris, 7½d. [i. e. incense = 5d. a lb.].

1536, pro libra thuris, 10d.'

¹ Clark's *Lincoln College* (1898), pp. 2, 3, 6.

² *Godstow English Register* (E.E.T.S.), p. lxxv.

³ i. e. one mark (13s. 4d.) in each quarter of the year.

⁴ Sums paid by Lincoln College.

⁵ The distinction seems to be—
'howsling' = *communicabilis* = the

wafers for administration to the people; 'singing' = *celebrabilis* = the wafer for the communion of the priest, which was much larger than the wafer for the laity. It was so named because psalms were chanted during its manufacture.

⁶ *thus* = frankincense.

'1487, to the apparitor pro oleo et crismate for the churches of All Saints and St. Michael's, 6*d*.'

'1520, pro oleo et crismate, at All Saints and St. Michael's, 8*d*.

'1487, for candles at Christmas for All Saints choir, 2½*d*.; for 3 lb. wax for "le standerd" in All Saints church, and for making it, 2*s*. 4*d*.'

'1506, 47 lb. wax makyng for our standers in All Saints church, and tryndels, and taperys for the he¹ awtere, ½*d*. a lb., 23½*d*.; for thalow² candylls against Christmas, 3*d*.; for Judas candyls a lb. the makyng, ½*d*.

Statutable attendance of Lincoln College at All Saints Church. The lease mentions the requirements of the College Statutes (codified³ 11 February 147⁹/₈₀). The Rector and every Fellow (save one⁴) of the College must attend service in All Saints Church on every one of the Greater Festivals. In addition, the College was to provide three sermons in English in each year, viz. on Easter day and on All Saints day, by the Rector; and on the dedication-day of the church (November 18th), by one of the Fellows.

Yearly rent. The yearly rent stipulated for by the College in this lease (53*s*. 4*d*.) is peculiar, coinciding with the yearly stipend⁵ originally assigned by the College Statutes to the chaplain who served the cure of All Saints Church. Possibly this sum was retained with a view to leaving undisturbed the labyrinth of traditional details according to which the College Bursar's yearly *Calculus* was made out.

Income of All Saints, circ. 1538. Lincoln College *Bursar's Accounts* show the sums following as the total receipts, from all sources, for All Saints Church in the years—

						£	s.	d.
1505	.	.	.	.	.	11	9	4
1507	.	.	.	.	.	15	2	7½
1509 ¹	.	.	.	.	.	17	0	5
1525	.	.	.	.	.	9	2	0¾
1530	.	.	.	.	.	13	0	10½
1532	.	.	.	.	.	10	15	2½

¹ High.

² Tallow.

³ By Thomas Rotherham, bishop of Lincoln.

⁴ This Fellow had to attend at St. Michael's North Gate Church, the other member of the Collegiate

Church (*infra* p. 30).

⁵ *Supra*, p. 23.

⁶ A year of great mortality, so bringing in an exceptional number of burial-fees, masses, and mortuaries: see pp. 27, 28.

In regard, therefore, to the apparent smallness of the probable income and the considerable burdens undertaken under the lease (no. LIX) of the 'vicarage', All Saints parish may seem to have made a bad bargain. It did not, however, regret it, and when the original lease was running out, the parish renewed it:

'1560, for sealing wax for the churchmen's¹ lease² of Allhallows, 2*d*.'

The sources of this income were altar-dues; Easter dues; private tithes; petty tithes; Sunday pence.

The altar-dues included all offerings at Masses, whether ordinary or commemorative; all offerings before crosses or images of saints (no. XII); all fees at funerals, marriages, and churchings; all bequests to the altar.³

The Easter dues were customary payments collected at Easter from all householders and communicants by the churchwardens of the parish. On the day when the amount was paid over to the College, the College provided a refecton for the churchwardens:

'1487, to Mr. Smyth [vintner], for wine at the reckoning of tithes at Easter, 8*d*.'

'1532, for good ayle at the end of the account on Easter day, 1*d*.'

These gifts, strictly called 'offerings'⁴ were also called 'tithe'⁵ as above. They probably account for the constant bequests⁶ in these wills of small sums to parish-churches as conscience-money for "tithes forgotten." Such conscience-money was also paid by parishioners in their life-time. Thus All Saints Church received—

'1505, of a good woman for tithe, 10*d*.'

'1512, of a woman for forgotten tithe, 2*d*.'

Private tithes, strictly defined, appear to be offerings made by individuals in respect of income not titheable in the ordinary way. At Oxford, graduates seem to have paid to their parish-church 'tithe' in respect of lecture-fees received by them. I have noted no instance of this in All Saints parish, but there are two in St. Michaels, North Gate:

¹ i. e. churchwardens'.

² Continuing the payment to Lincoln College yearly of 53*s*. 4*d*., under the old conditions.

³ *Supra*, p. 7.

⁴ 'Oblationes.'

⁵ 'Decimae et oblationes.'

⁶ *Supra*, p. 7.

'1507, about Easter : received from Mr. Deke,¹ for his lectures, in private tithes, . . .²'

'1507, about June : received of Mr. Perkins for his lectures in private tithes, 3s. 4d.'

Conscience-money was also paid in respect of these private tithes. Thus, All Saints Church received—

'1513, of a Baysler³ of Martyn College, for a other man whoys concyans dyd gruge hym for his privy tythes, 3d.'

Petty Tithes accrued from gardens attached to houses in the parish. In most cases, perhaps, this tithe was brought-in in kind, and went to the College kitchen, without being notified in the accounts. One garden, or orchard, in All Saints parish long continued to make payment, or commutation-payment, on this account :

1582, of Mr. Thomas Furse, for tythe-aples, 2s. 6d. 1586 of Mr. Fures, for tythe-wardens, 12d. 1641, Henry Carter, tithes for garden, 6d. 1654, Mr. Thomas Wallis' garden tithe, 6d.

Sunday pence was a charge of 1d. for each Sunday in the year (but doubled in Christmas, Easter, Ascension and Whit weeks; and so 4s. 8d. in all yearly), levied on every house in the parish of 40s. yearly value and upwards. About 1521 it was disputed. In the Diocesan Registry at Peterborough is an Act-book of John Cocks, vicar-general of the Archbishop of Canterbury, with entries 1521 to 1523. It has much to say about the suit then begun by Lincoln College against John Clerke, poticary, of St. Michael's parish, Oxford, to enforce payment.⁴ In 1532, All Saints parish, after a meeting with the College, agreed to continue payment : '1532, for wyne whan we warre att a-grement with the parishe off Allhallows to offer on the Sundays, 16d.'

In 1566, there were 25 houses in All Saints still paying Sunday pence : 'for five and twenty houses, paying 14d. quarterly, £5 16s. 8d.'

This church-tax was collected by the churchwardens and paid in, with the amount collected for Easter dues (p. 25), each Easter.

Provisos as to Pestilence. The provisos of the lease in regard

¹ Richard Duck, Fellow of Exeter : Boase, *Reg. Coll. Eron.* (O.H.S.) p. 50.

² Amount illegible.

³ Bachelor = B.A.

⁴ The College account for 1524 notices in great detail the expenditure in connexion with this suit.

to pestilence seem strange, but there is abundant evidence, in the *Bursar's Yearly Account* in Lincoln College archives, that they were actual necessities. All Saints (*supra* p. 22) was a very small parish, in the heart of Oxford. On the west, a fringe of garden grounds separated it from St. Martin's parish; on the north, the quadrangles of Lincoln and Brasenose colleges provided open spaces. But near the church there were several narrow airless alleys running out of the High Street into back lanes, and rows of houses overlooking from each side the overcrowded churchyard. There was no water-supply except by shallow, contaminated wells. Pestilences were, therefore, of almost regular occurrence every summer. Even the broken series of yearly accounts of Lincoln College shows an unceasing succession of epidemics.

1507: August and September: the parish was swept by pestilence. Among the victims were two Fellows of Lincoln College; the Rector's servant-lad: and three 'pauperculi' (boy-servitors), one of them the Bible-clerk. The Rector and most of the Fellows left Oxford, July to November, leaving only two Fellows to keep the College going.

'1507, For wachyng-candyls¹ for the poore chylde,² 1½*d.*; for his schrede³ and makyng ys pyte,⁴ 8*d.*; for ryngynd⁵ and the mese-penne,⁶ 5*d.*; to a woman that kepe him 2 nyghts and 2 days, 8*d.*; for tryacle,⁷ ½*d.*'

'For Henry that rede the bybyll⁸: for syngyng⁹ and ys pyt, 6*d.*; to the womann that kepe hym, and ys scherde,¹⁰ 6*d.*; for broms,¹¹ 1*d.*; to two women [who] clend Herry's chamber, 2*d.*'

1508: September and October: return of pestilence: only three Fellows of Lincoln College in residence. One Fellow died of the epidemic in August.

1509: continued pestilence. One of the College victims was a poor-scholar, or young student-servant, whose battells were written off as a bad debt.

¹ Probably 'watching candles' placed round the corpse awaiting burial.

² The 'puer Rectoris', as above.

³ Shroud. There were then no coffins buried with the corpse: see n. 1, p. 45.

⁴ Pit = grave.

⁵ Ringing (his knell).

⁶ Mass-penny, i.e. the offering at his Requiem Mass.

⁷ Medicine.

⁸ i.e. the Bible-clerk: Clark's *Lincoln College* (1898), p. 15.

⁹ i.e. his Requiem Mass.

¹⁰ Shroud.

¹¹ Brooms to sweep his room after his death.

'1509: for a schred for Robard Alan, 15*d.*; forgyfyn unto Robard Alan, the por chyld, after thar he was deyed, off charyte be Mr. Rector and the Cumpane,¹ that he dyd awe unto the Colledge, 3*s.* 10½*d.*'

1512: renewed pestilence: more than half the Colledge withdrew, July to August, to Chilton by Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. On re-assembling, at beginning of September, half the Colledge withdrew, for other six weeks, to Hampton-Poyle, Oxfordshire.

1514: renewed pestilence: one victim was the Sub-rector of Lincoln Colledge. Lincoln Colledge dispersed. Between 19 August and 14 October there were 34 burials in All Saints parish, mostly of young people.

1525: pestilence in summer: one Fellow of Lincoln Colledge died in May. The Colledge dispersed. One Fellow, Martin Lyndsey, D.D., being suspected of the infection, was put in quarantine, but continued in receipt of his dining allowances, in May:

'alowyd to Mr. Doctor Lynsey for 3 *weeks* commons (Ascension weke² beyng one of them) by cause he shold not company with us for fer of the sekness, 4*s.* 4*d.*'

1526: grievous pestilence: in the first week in July the burials in All Saints parish were 21 in number, including a Fellow of Lincoln Colledge. Allowances were made by Lincoln Colledge to the Colledge servants during 23 weeks in which the Colledge was absent. Three Fellows only kept house³ in Oxford; the rest of the Colledge partly dispersed to their own homes, partly lived (as a skeleton Colledge) in a hired house, first at Launton,⁴ afterwards at Hampton Poyle. William Hynkerfeld, a B.A. Fellow, was put in quarantine: Allowed—

'for Syr Hynkerfeld his commens, *quod infectabatur*, for 24 weeks, 33*s.* 8*d.*'

1527: pestilence in summer and autumn, the Sub-rector of Lincoln Colledge succumbing to it in the second week in July. The Fellows partly dispersed to their own homes, partly lived together, keeping up a form of Colledge exercises, in a hired house at Combe Longa, Oxfordshire.

¹ The Fellows.

² Ascension-day, 1525 = 25 May.

³ One was Dr. Martin Lyndsey (*supra*), thus recalling the fond belief, recorded by Thucydides, of

the survivors of the great Athenian plague, that they had become plague-proof.

⁴ Near Bicester, Oxfordshire.

1536: pestilence from October to December: the Fellows partly dispersed, partly lived in a hired house at Launton, Oxfordshire.

1538: renewed pestilence. Most of the Fellows of Lincoln College withdrew in May to Gosford, in Kidlington parish, Oxford, taking with them the manciple, the cook, and the bible-clerk, and remained there till the latter end of August.

1544: pestilence for 22 weeks, from the beginning of June, Lincoln College withdrew to Bucknell, north of Bicester, Oxfordshire, leaving two Fellows only to keep house in Oxford.

These particulars, interesting in themselves as evincing the unhealthiness of English towns in the first half of the sixteenth century, fully account for the plague-provisos of the 1538 All Saints lease in this series of documents:

(i) that the Rector and Fellows were in continual expectation of claiming, on account of pestilence in Oxford, absence from their statutable attendance at the services in All Saints Church;

(ii) that, in many weeks of sickness, the parish-priest of All Saints needed help in his sacerdotal functions.

Origin of Parish Registers in England. The year 1538, in which the churchwardens of All Saints were negotiating their lease and arranging for its ratification by the Bishop and subsequent enrolment in the Bishop's Register, brought compulsory registration of baptisms, weddings, and Burials into the parish-system in England. This is not noticed in these documents, but the matter is so important that occasion may be taken of the mention of this church to make public the new light which its records¹ throw on this subject.

In September, 30 Henry VIII (1538), an Injunction, sent out by Thomas, baron Cromwell, the King's Vicar-general, required every parish-church to provide itself with a book in which to record baptisms, weddings, and burials. Into this book, Sunday by Sunday, the officiating minister had to enter every baptism, wedding, or burial which had taken place on that Sunday, or on any of the six preceding days. There has been a school of writers

¹ Contained in the Bursar's Accounts in the archives of Lincoln College, Oxford. Those of St. Michael's North Gate Church, Oxford, contained in the same accounts are also cited. Two witnesses are better than one.

who would not admit that any custom found in England can be of English origin. Accordingly, Cromwell is assumed to have picked up this registration-scheme from what he found established at Florence during his residence there (about 1515) or in the Spanish Netherlands (which he visited somewhat later). In order to prevent the marriage of such persons, as had, through their sponsors, been artificially brought within prohibited degrees of affinity, the principal church of Florence, at the time of Cromwell's visit, kept a register of children baptized, with the names of their sponsors. So, in the Spanish Netherlands, like records were kept, under the impulse of an edict originally issued in 1497, by the Primate of Spain, Francisco Ximenes de Cisneros, Archbishop of Toledo. Cromwell, it has been alleged, in 1538, copied these records, but extended them so as to include weddings and burials. But the records of All Saints and of St. Michael's North Gate parishes, Oxford, show a system of weekly registration in regular use before Thomas Cromwell was born, as well as during his youth before his residence abroad.

On each Sunday, one Fellow of Lincoln College attended at All Saints Church, and another Fellow attended at St. Michael's Church, to make a note in his book of all churchings of women, all weddings, and all burials which took place that day or had taken place in the week preceding; with a statement of the offerings, or fees, which had been paid in each case. Baptisms, of course, were not recorded, because no fee, directly or indirectly, was asked for baptism; but the births of children are sufficiently indicated by the thank-offerings of their mothers.

The natural inference is, that similar records were kept in all churches—and there were not a few such in England—in which the cure was served by a chaplain, but the altar-offerings belonged to some religious house or secular College. Cromwell, therefore, in his Injunctions of 1538, did no more than impose on all parish-churches a registration-system which had long been (regularly, if somewhat laxly) in use in many.

1487: at All Saints Church.

I Su. after Epiphany (7 Jan. 1487)—funeral of John Smyth, skynner.

VII Su. after Epiphany (18 Feb.)—wedding of David dyer.

IV Su. in Lent (25 March, 1487)—a funeral and a churching.

Passion Sunday (1 April)—a boy's funeral, another funeral, and a churching.

- III Su. after Easter (6 May)—three funerals and a churching.
 IV Su. after Easter (13 May)—three funerals.
 Whitsunday (3 June)—two funerals, a churching, and Mr. Wither's funeral.
 Corpus Christi (14 June)—funeral of wife of Ashley, the tailor.¹
 I Su. after Trinity (17 June)—a churching.
 III Su. after Trinity (1 July)—a boy's funeral.
 V Su. after Trinity (15 July)—a boy's funeral.
 IX Su. after Trinity (12 Aug.)—a funeral.
 Assumption of Mary (15 Aug.)—funeral of Lech's wife.
 XIV Su. after Trinity (16 Sept.)—a churching.
 XX Su. after Trinity (28 Oct.)—a churching.

1487: at *St. Michael's Church*.

- III Su. after Epiphany (21 Jan. 1487)—a wedding, a funeral.
 IV Su. after Epiphany (28 Jan.)—Johnson's wedding.
 V Su. after Epiphany (4 March)—a funeral.
 Quinquagesima (25 Feb.)—three funerals.
 III Su. in Lent (18 March)—three funerals and a churching.
 IV Su. in Lent (25 March, 1487)—John Adam's funeral.
 Passion Sunday (1 April)—a funeral.
 Palm Sunday (8 April)—two funerals.
 III Su. after Easter (6 May)—two funerals.
 IV Su. after Easter (13 May)—a funeral.
 III Su. after Trinity (1 July)—a funeral.
 XIII Su. after Trinity (9 Sept.)—a churching.

1508: at *All Saints Church*.

- II Su. after Epiphany (16 Jan. 1508)—wedding of John bocher's mother.
 III Su. after Epiphany (23 Jan.)—churching of Nicholas Crier's wife.
 IV Su. after Epiphany (30 Jan.)—churching of the cook of Oriell's wife, and of Wise's wife; burial of the infant son of said cook; wedding of John Skinner's man-servant.
 VI Su. after Epiphany (13 Feb.)—wedding of Belman's maid-servant.
 Septuagesima (20 Feb.)—churching of Beston's wife; burial of a poor-scholar.
 Sexagesima (27 Feb.)—burial of a poor woman.
 Quinquagesima (5 March)—churching of John Carpenter's wife.
 II Su. in Lent (19 March)—burial of Thomas Skinner's boy.
 Annunciation (25 March, 1508)—burial of Blunt's man-servant.
 IV Su. in Lent (2 Apr.)—burial of Colinson's wife.
 Passion Sunday (9 Apr.)—churching of Skinner's wife.
 Easter (23 Apr.)—churching of Pitts' wife; burial of John Skinner's boy; burial of Blunt's daughter.
 IV Su. after Easter (21 May)—churching of John Skinner's wife.
 V Su. after Easter (28 May)—three churchings, viz. Thomas Walker's wife, Walter capper's wife, and a poor woman.

¹ *Supra*, p. 7.

- VI Su. after Easter (4 June)—burial of Wayte's man-servant.
 III Su. after Trinity (9 July)—churching of John glover's wife.
 IV Su. after Trinity (16 July)—churching of King's wife.
 V Su. after Trinity (30 July)—churching of Aronley's wife.
 VII Su. after Trinity (6 Aug.)—churching of Gamston's wife.
 VIII Su. after Trinity (13 Aug.)—burial of . . . Pekke, B.A.
 IX Su. after Trinity (20 Aug.)—burial of Mr. Wodde (Fellow).
 XI Su. after Trinity (3 Sept.)—churching of the glover's wife over the corner shop.
 XIII Su. after Trinity (17 Sept.)—burial of Teko's wife.
 XV Su. after Trinity (1 Oct.)—burial of two maid-servants of Blunt.
 XVI Su. after Trinity (8 Oct.)—burial of Ashley's journeyman (Atkins).
 XVII Su. after Trinity (15 Oct.)—burial of Linche.
 XVIII Su. after Trinity (22 Oct.)—wedding of Pitts' maid-servant.
 XX Su. after Trinity (5 Nov.)—wedding of Bristo's man-servant.
 XXII Su. after Trinity (19 Nov.)—two churchings (viz., the barber's wife and John Simon's wife).
 II Su. in Advent (10 Dec.)—churching of Simon skinner's wife.

1508: *at St. Michael's Church.*

- II Su. after Xmas (2 Jan. 150 $\frac{7}{8}$)—a churching.
 II Su. after Epiphany (16 Jan.)—burial of Gamston's boy.
 III Su. after Epiphany (23 Jan.)—a churching.
 V Su. after Epiphany (6 Feb.)—two churchings (viz. Crampe's wife; Winslow's wife).
 VI Su. after Epiphany (13 Feb.)—two burials (Laghton's boy; Alexander's boy).
 Septuagesima (20 Feb.)—burial of Asheley's boy.
 Sexagesima (27 Feb.)—burial of Halpathe's boy.
 IV Su. in Lent (2 Apr., 1508)—two burials (viz. Herdsone's wife and a 'scholaris' of Exeter College).
 III Su. after Easter (14 May)—churching of Linley's wife; wedding of John Brymmying.
 V Su. after Easter (28 May)—burial of Pirot's man-servant; two other burials.
 I Su. after Trinity (25 June)—burial of a boy.
 III Su. after Trinity (9 July)—burial of Hills' boy.
 IX Su. after Trinity (20 July)—two burials (viz. Hollerd, and John the parish-clerk).
 X Su. after Trinity (27 July)—a wedding; burial of father Camden; and another burial.
 XI Su. after Trinity (3 Sept.)—Dragley's funeral.
 XII Su. after Trinity (10 Sept.)—a boy's burial.
 XVI Su. after Trinity (8 Oct.)—burial of Seth's man-servant.
 XVII Su. after Trinity (15 Oct.)—three burials (viz. Helen Rogers, Rogers' boy, an old woman).
 XVIII Su. after Trinity (12 Nov.)—burial of alderman John Rogers.
 XXII Su. after Trinity (19 Nov.)—burials of two boys.

1512 : at *All Saints Church.*

- I Su. after Xmas (28 Dec., 1511¹)—churching of John Kyng's wife.
 I Su. after Epiphany (11 Jan., 151 $\frac{1}{2}$)—burial of Mr. Johnson's daughter.
 IV Su. after Epiphany (1 Feb.)—burial of wife of Edward, the inn keeper : wedding of Mr. Mortimer.
 Sexagesima (15 Feb.)—churching of John Skynner's wife.
 II Su. in Lent (7 March)—churching of wife of John Simonys.
 III Su. after Easter (2 May, 1512)—churching of Thomas Cartar's wife.
 IV Su. after Easter (9 May)—churching of John barbar's wife.
 V Su. after Easter (16 May)—churching of Maydenston's wife.
 II Su. after Trinity (20 June)—Typpyng's wedding.
 III Su. after Trinity (27 June)—wedding of a carpenter ; burial of Mr. Robert Strangways.
 VI Su. after Trinity (18 July)—burial of Walter cappar's son.
 VIII Su. after Trinity (1 Aug.)—churching of John Whallysman's wife.
 X Su. after Trinity (15 Aug.)—churching of — Gamyston's wife.
 XI Su. after Trinity (22 Aug.)—burial of Mr. Symons' man-servant.
 XII Su. after Trinity (29 Aug.)—burial of Sawbryge's daughter.
 XIV Su. after Trinity (12 Sept.)—two burials (viz., of Launslawtt's daughter, of John Kyng's man-servant Robert).
 XV Su. after Trinity (19 Sept.)—three burials (viz., of a carpenter ; of two boys).
 XVI Su. after Trinity (26 Sept.)—churching of John Wyse's wife.
 XVII Su. after Trinity (3 Oct.)—burial of Thomas Mallere, tailor.
 XVIII Su. after Trinity (10 Oct.)—three burials (viz., Agnes Bowrow's boy ; William Skynner ; Thomas Kent's maid Clemence).
 XX Su. after Trinity (24 Oct.)—burial of Kent's little maid-servant.
 XXII Su. after Trinity (7 Nov.)—burial of late William Skynner's boy.
 XXIII Su. after Trinity (14 Nov.)—wedding of Whyte's² maid-servant.
 XXIV Su. after Trinity (21 Nov.)—churching of Robert cowke's wife.
 I Su. in Advent (28 Nov.)—churching of William Skynar's wife ; burial of widow Joan . . .
 III Su. in Advent (12 Dec.)—churching of Wattson's wife.

1512 : at *St. Michael's Church.*

- Xmas., 1511 (25 Dec., 1511)—a boy's burial.
 II Su. after Xmas. (4 Jan., 151 $\frac{1}{2}$)—two burials (both boys).
 I Su. after Epiphany (11 Jan.)—churching of John Barbar's wife.
 II Su. after Epiphany (18 Jan.)—churching of Haleshaylle's wife.
 III Su. after Epiphany (25 Jan.)—churching of John Croffton's wife.
 Sexagesima (15 Feb.)—churching of Peter's wife.
 Palm Sunday (4 April, 1512)—churching of Edmund Sharpe's wife.
 V Su. after Easter (16 May)—burial of Mr. Campden's boy.
 I Su. after Trinity (13 June)—churching of Mr. Campden's wife.

¹ The accounts are kept by the Church Year, beginning Advent Sunday. It is singular that church-ings and burials so seldom occur in these years in December.
² i.e. Wayte's.

- IV Su. after Trinity (4 July)—two burials (Mr. Henry Strangways; and a *scholaris* of Laurence Hall).
 VIII Su. after Trinity (1 Aug.)—burial of Richard¹ Yongman's wife.
 IX Su. after Trinity (8 Aug.)—churching of William hoycher's wife.
 X Su. after Trinity (15 Aug.)—burial of Peter's wife.
 XIII Su. after Trinity (5 Sept.)—burial of widow Rodgers.
 XVIII Su. after Trinity (10 Oct.)—burial of Lynley's son.
 XIX Su. after Trinity (17 Oct.)—two burials (viz., of Elizabeth Kowke, and of John barbar's wife).
 II Su. in Advent (28 Nov.)—churching of Lynley's wife.

1524 : at *All Saints Church.*

Week beginning

- 10 Jan., 1524 : Joan Kyng's wedding; burial of an infant boy.
 17 Jan., 1524 : a churching.
 7 Feb., 1524 : churching of — Symons' wife; another churching; burial of a poor fellow; burial of Alice Clark's boy.
 14 Feb., 1524 : a churching.
 6 March, 1524 : churching of Alice Clark.
 24 Apr., 1524 : churching of Robinson's wife.
 1 May, 1524 : burial of Monday's boy.
 22 May, 1524 : churching of Neyll's wife.
 5 June, 1524 : burial of Mrs. Page.
 17 July, 1524 : churching of Edward Herst's wife.
 24 July, 1524 : churching of Powll's wife.
 31 July, 1524 : wedding of Joan Kyng's maid-servant, and burial of John Manston.
 14 Aug., 1524 : a churching; and Penfold's burial.
 28 Aug., 1524 : churching of Cowper's wife.
 4 Sept., 1524 : churching of Neyll's wife; and burial of Neyll's son.
 18 Sept., 1524 : burial of an old woman.
 25 Sept., 1524 : churching of John Brygeman's wife.
 16 Oct., 1524 : burial of the old woman who lived in John Symons' house.
 23 Oct., 1524 : burial of Walter capper's boy.
 30 Oct., 1524 : two burials (viz., Feltwell's boy, and wife of Swett Thomas).
 23 Nov., 1524 : two burials.
 11 Dec., 1524 : churching of wife of Robert Davys; and burial of Agnes Borow.

1524 : at *St. Michael's Church.*

Week beginning

- 10 Jan., 1524 : a churching; and Robert Glasser's wedding.
 12 June, 1524 : wedding of St. Michael's parish-clerk.
 28 Aug., 1524 : churching of Geykyns' wife.
 29 Nov., 1524 : Mr. Archer's burial.
 11 Dec., 1524 : a churching.

¹ Or Robert.

Table of Registration-entries, 1524-9. The evidence¹ of the preceding scattered years can happily be clinched by a six-years' succession of registration-entries :

	<i>Churchings.</i>		<i>Weddings.</i>		<i>Burials.</i>	
1524 All Saints .	14		2		16	
St. Michael's		3		2		1
1525 All Saints .	6		3		16	
St. Michael's		8		0		10
1526 All Saints .	6		4		41	
St. Michael's		3		2		5
1527 All Saints .	10		4		17	
St. Michael's		1		3		21
1528 All Saints .	14		4		18	
St. Michael's		4		1		22
1529 All Saints .	11		1		23	
St. Michael's		7		3		15
Totals . .	61	26	18	11	131	74

that is (for the six years, and in the two parishes) 87 churchings ; 29 weddings ; 205 burials.

Surely after this plain statement of plain facts, it can never again be asserted that Church Registration in England began in 1538 by importation from Italy or from the Spanish Netherlands.

Payment in kind. A special and frequent feature of these documents is payment not in coin, but in goods. A testator, giving a bequest to a church or to a relative, very often bestows not money, but a sheep, or a lamb, or so much barley or malt. A ready explanation of such bequests is found in the undoubted fact that the value of stock and grain was subject to great and unforeseen fluctuations, not only from year to year, but from month to month. If, therefore, stock and grain, at the time of the execution of a will, should command high prices, a testator was willing that his legatees should reap the benefit of the favourable market prices of the items of his bequest to them ; but if it happened that the will had to be given effect to in a time of depressed prices, a testator was willing that his executors should not be troubled with

¹ Full and authoritative notes on these points (as taken by me, at first hand, from the Account-books in Lincoln College Archives) are preserved in a set of quarto note-books

in the Bodleian, and are accessible there for checking every statement of fact here made. Lincoln College, in its new Archives-room, has dealt worthily by the original documents.

making good the fall in the market value of his bequests. But, it must be observed, that the perpetual recurrence of bequests in kind is plain evidence that coin, the medium of exchange, was then not readily available. It was much easier to transact business by barter of goods than by money payment. Accordingly, we find (no. XVI) an I. O. U. for £20 cancelled on payment in malt and in sheep, 1459. An odd letter, preserved in the oddest of ways, carries this scarcity of circulating capital down to the Commonwealth period.

Dr. Edward Hyde, of Brightwell, Berkshire, who died 1659, in writing one of his sermons¹ ran out of paper, and had recourse to the backs of some old letters. One of these was from Geoffrey Pope, an officer in Colonel Barnes' regiment in Wardour Castle, Wiltshire, and asked leave to pay a debt 'in sheep, for money is a scarce commodity in this country' (= county).

¹ In Dr. Plume's chest at Maldon, Essex; *Essex Review*, xiii. 31.

SIXTY-THREE

LINCOLN DIOCESE DOCUMENTS

1450-1544

I: Will, 1450, of Joan Buckland, widow of Richard Buckland, of Edgcott, Northamptonshire.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 55 to lf. 56. In the same Register, at lf. 84 bk. to 85 bk., is a second copy of this will. In this second copy the surname always appears as 'Bokeland'; and the verb 'wol', or 'woll', is generally 'will', but sometimes 'wyll'. The chief other variants of the second copy are given in the footnotes. Some slight clerical errors in the first copy have been corrected from the second copy without comment.

This Dame Buckland was a notable housemistress, and her enumeration of, and division of, her household and personal effects are pleasingly minute and distinct.

One of her phrases invites a note, since it touches on a point as to bed-linen which occurs in several other of these wills, but is now practically forgotten. Linen was then woven in a long narrow web, incapable of providing a sheet of sufficient width for any ordinary bed. The usual practice was to take three lengths from such a web and sew them together at their edges so as to form a sheet of the desired width. This arrangement had the advantage, from the point of view of household economy, that, when the middle strip grew thin by use, the long seams could be unpicked, and one of the less worn side-strips put in the middle, removing the original middle-strip to the edge. When this fresh middle-strip became thin in its turn, it changed places with the other side-strip. Each of these strips was called, in English, a 'leaf', or a 'breadth'; in Latin, a *folium*. Dame Buckland uses 'leaf'. Half-widths occur; e.g. sheets of 'two leaves and a half', some apparently for coverlets,¹ others for narrower beds. Ancient beds were constructed for two, or even several, persons sleeping together. Shakespeare, in *Twelfth Night*, mentions the then proverbial 'great bed of Ware', in Hertfordshire, which required a sheet of twelve feet square.

¹ head-sheets, now called top-sheets.

Dame Buckland's bequests include four service-books, catalogued, in the way then in universal use, by the first words of the recto of their second leaf. Such books, to begin their first leaf, had generally a more or less elaborate illumination, so that the first words of the second leaf supplied a simpler distinctive mark by which to recognize them.

6 May, 1450.

Bequest to
Edgcott
church,
Northampton-
shire.

* **I**n dei Nomine, Amen: in the yere of oure lord M^l ccccl^{ti} the vj. day of the moneth of Maij, I, Iohane Bukland, ordeyn and dispose all this here vnderwritten for my last wille, at the making herof beyng in good helth¹ thanked be god.

first, I beqweth to the Church of oure lady of Ochecote ij. 5
Chaleys gilte; Item, a encensure, with a Ship therto, bothe of Syluer; Item, a grene appariell for the Auter, that is for to say, Reredose & frontell powdred with golde, & ij. Rydelles of Grenetarternyn; Item, ij. smale peces of the same sewte for the Sepulcre; Item, ij. Apparell of white for the ij. Auters, with Ryddelles,² for lente, & ij. vestu-
mentes of the same seute; Item, j. hole sewte of blew, that is to say, a Cope of Damaske, j. Chesiple, & ij. Tynicles,³ and all thapparell that longith therto; Item, to the said Church, a Masseboke, the first worde of the 15
second leeff *dei dixit*; Item, j. grayle, the first worde of the secunde leef *vel hoc*; Item, a portevose,⁴ the first worde of the secunde leff *ipso die*; Item, j. processionary, the first worde of the secunde leffe *Oremus. deus qui*.

10
Testamentum
Iohanne
Buckland.

Bequests of
plate to Robert
Carleton,
Master of St.
John's Hospi-
tal, Banbury;
John Greve,
vicar of
Blakesley,
Northampton-
shire; and
others.

Item, xij. of my best bolle peces, to be departed in this 20
wyse:—to sir Robert, Maister of sent Iohn⁵ hospitall of Banne-
bury, a pece & iiij. spones; Sir Richard Wymark, vicar of don-
kastre,⁶ j. pece & j. spone; Sir William Syleby, j. pece & j. spone;
Sir Iohn Greve, vicar of Blaconesley⁷, j. pece⁸ iiij. spones;
Maister⁹ Thomas Vicary, j. pece & j. spone; Agnes Bukland, 25
j. pece; And to Maister William Rede, j. pece⁸ iiij. spones.

Item, to Richard kyddington, a Bolle pece new & vj. spones;
Item, to the same Richard, my more sawter at Ochecote.

* lf. 55. ¹ health of body. ² a rydell. ³ tunicles. ⁴ portews.
⁵ Jones. ⁶ ? Vicar of Doncaster, Yorkshire. ⁷ Blacolnesley.
⁸ and iiij. ⁹ Mayster Thomas vicare a pecece and a spone.

Item, to the house of Chesthonte, xij. smale spones marked with the towche.

Bequest to Cheshunt priory, Hertfordshire.

Item, I besett to Richard Clarell a apparell for a auter, that is, a Reredose red of clothe of Sylk with a Crucifix therupon, j. frontell of the same seute, * j. pyllow for the Auter, j. Auter clothe (the frontell fringed sewed therupon) of the same sewte, ij. rede courtneys of Sylk; Item, to the said Richard, the lasse¹ Chaleys of ij. that I haue at london; Item, a litell payre of salt salers² gilt; Item, j. paire of Candelstykkes siluer for the auter; Item, j. litell Chafir of Syluer, with iij. fete; Item, xij. of my best spones that ben here.

Bequest of church tapestry and plate to Richard Clarell.

Item, to the said Richard, j. rede Syllour³ and the Testour, three Curteyns & the hylling and all the Costres that longe to the same Chambir of Rede; Item, ij. qwysshyens of Red clothe of Sylk; Item, the best carpett of the twayne grete & j. the best of the litell Carpettes; Item, the best ffetherbed, & the best Matrasse with the best bolster, j. paire of the best ffustyans; Item, ij. of the best pyllows with the Beerys; Item, j. payre of Shetis of Raynes with iij. leues & closse seme; Item, j. hedshete of the same, with ij. leues & dim.⁴; Item, ij. large Bordclothes of knottes of oon sewte, j. longe towell of the same sewte⁵; Item, ij. smale towelles of Raynes playne; Item, ij. Surnapes of Raynes wroght, ij. potellers of Syluer of the ffrench Shape; Item, j. longe Settyll⁶ & j. Cheyer Coruen; Item, vj. peces Chased with the Coueracle,⁷ the Monethes enameled in the Bottom; Item, j. Chafir to hete watir in & my grettest basyn of latyn.

Bequest of household stuff to the same Richard Clarell.

Item, to the said Richard, my litell Sawter; Item, j. paire of Gardeuyance,⁸ the best that I haue at london, & a standard that I haue here; Item, to the said Richard, j. paire of Botelles, a superaltare & j. Missall, with Syluer claspes.

Other bequests to Richard Clarell,

Item, I beqweth to Thomas Clarell my grete Bolle pece with the coueracle⁵ & j. rounde table, j. litell paire of gardeuiance & j. paire of Wynebotellys.

Item, to Pykeringes wyff, j. litell depe Bacyn of Syluer.

Item, I besett to Maister Iohn Trotter, the parson of Ochecote,

Bequests chiefly to clergy, viz.—

¹ lf. 55 bk.

³ sillure.

⁶ sedile.

¹ lesse.

⁴ i. e. dimidium = half.

⁷ couercle.

² j. litle par sensours.

⁵ werk.

⁸ Gardevyans.

(a) to John Trotter, rector of Edgcott, Northamptonshire;

j. bed of Blew bokeram with a testour & iij.¹ Courteyns of the same, with all the Costres longyng to the same Chambir; Item, j. good ffetherbed with j. large matrasse hilled with white canuase & j. bolster, a paire of the best blankettes, j. hilling of blew worsted, j. lytell Carpett; Item, j. bolle of Syluer; Item, my 5 lytell Cipres table & j. spitte, suche as is moste necessary for him; Item, I woll that the parson a foresaid haue j. table, j. paire of the best Trestilles, the fairest fourme, j. Copbord; Item, the grettist potte & the grettist panne that is in my Kechyn.²

(b) to Robert Carleton, master of St. John's Hospital, Banbury;

Item, I besette to sir Robert Carleton, Maister of saint Iohns³ 10 of Bannebury, the stayned bed with iij. Courtayns in the Chambre aboute Clarell, and all the Costres for the same Chambir; vj. quwissens of Tapstre⁴ werk wrought with gootys, j. good fetherbed, j. good matrasse, j. good paire of blankettes & j. hillyng of Red & grene, j. good bolster, j. good pyllow, j. paire of Shetes 15 of ij. leuys & dim.; Item, j. table, j. paire of trestilles, thre ioyned stolys, a Copberd; Also, my secunde grete potte & my secunde grete panne and a spitte suche as is necessare for his vse.

(c) to Jacob;

Item, I besette to Iacob, a spreuer⁵ of white, a paire of shetis of ij. leues & dim.; a matrasse, a bolster, j. pillow, a paire of 20 blankettes, a gode qwylt.

(d) to John Greve, vicar of Blakesley, Northamptonshire.

Item, I besette to sir Iohn Greue, vicar of Blaconesley, a matrasse, j. bolster, j. paire of shetis, j. paire of Blankettes, j. blew hillyng, & iij. courtaynes sewte of the bed in his Chambir; j. Chist suche as is necessary for him, j. Chayer of beyend the 25 see⁶ making, j. Chafir⁷ for to heete watir inne, & the grettist bason (sauyng oon) of laton.

Unbequeathed silver plate to be sold.

Item, al my siluer vessell that I haue not beset neither in this testament nor in my Testament at london I vvoll that it be solde.⁸

Unbequeathed bedding and napery and pewter and brass to be distributed by executors.

Item, all my other bedding & napery, which I haue not besett in my testament, I wol that it be departed to suche frendis & seruantes as be with me and to mewardes, after myn executours discrecion.

Item, I wol that al my pewtir vessell be departed among 35 my seruantes abyding in this Contre and also amonge my tenauntes.

¹ iijj.

² chechyn.

³ Jones.

⁴ Tapsere.

⁵ sperver.

⁶ by yend the see wark.

⁷ j. Chafir.

⁸ seld.

And all my brasse remanent; for to be departed in lyke wyse after the discrecion of myn executours.

Item, all my spittes & Rakkes¹ which I haue not besett in my Testament I wol that thei be lefte in the parsonage to my tenaunt; ease perpetuell, And that thei be indented betwix² the parson & the parishens.

Item, I wol that whosoever shall reioyse this Maner of Ohecote after my decesse that ther be lefte in the olde Chaumbir the sellure and the Testure enbrowdred and iij. ^{Bequests to Edgcott manor-house, Northampton-shire, with its old chamber,}
 10 Curtaynes of the same, and all the Costres of the same sewte, the federbed, & a matrasse, j. bolster, & j. paire of fustyanse that lyeth on the same bed, and a hilling of the same sewte, j. grete Carpette (the secunde) and a litell Carpet (next the best³), the new mattes that lyen⁴ in the same Chaumbir; Item,
 15 I wol that the Red wosted qwisshens abyde stille in the same Chaumbir, Also j. copeborde.

Item, in the halle, the Red halling lefte in the same, with all and hall, the Costirs and Bancours of the same sewte, xij. qwisshens of Red diapred with grene, j. copborde that standith in the halle;
 20 Item, a longe table coloured with grene, j. paire of trestilles longing therto, and the side Table with the Trestilles.

Item, I wol that all the Costeringes that longith to the parlour and parlour. And the Bankers and xij. qwysshens that longen⁵ to the same parlour abyde therin; j. table for the high deice⁶ (the lenger)
 25 with the Trestilles, j. longe grene table with the trestilles, And j. playne forme,* j. Copeborde, & all other necessarijs that ar nayled fast in the said place I wol that thei abyde stille.

Item, all other necessities as stolys Chistes or formes⁷ I wol ^{Bequests to executors.} that myn executours that been⁸ in this contre haue that is
 30 necessary for hem⁹ of the best that is not written afore to theire owne vse and the remenaunt; to be departed amonge other frendis of myn here in this contree.

Item, as towching my horses that be here at the day of my departing, I wol that Richard Clarell haue the best next my ^{Bequests of horses,}
 35 mortuary, Iacob the thirde, Iohn Cook the iiij^{the};
 as touching my Carthorses¹⁰, I wol that he that kepith hem ^{cart-horses.}
 at that day haue the best and j. Cowe the best; ^{cows,}

* If. 56. ¹ and all my rakkes. ² between. ³ next best.
⁴ lye. ⁵ longyth. ⁶ deyse. ⁷ formes or chestis. ⁸ be.
⁹ them. ¹⁰ carthorse.

and sheep.

the secunde I wol that hertwell haue, & ij. kyne & xij. ewen of thoo that I haue here.

Item, Alyson Swayn ij.¹ kyne & xij. ewen that I haue here at my departyng And that she be well see to of clothing and bedding that is necessary vnto hir and wel rewarded.

5

Item, j. of the Carthorses to henry Cheyny & j. cowe.

Item, j. Carthorse to Iohn Bole and j. Cowe.

All the remenaunt³ of my kyne and my wedirs that be here in this lordship that thei be spendid amonge my tenaunt³ in mete.

10

Bequests of
wheat and
malt to
Edgcott
tenants, and
to the poor of
nine adjacent
villages.

Item, I wol that every tenaunt of myn in Ochecote haue dim. quarter of wete & dim. quarter of Malt.

All² the remenaunt³ of whete and Malt that it be departed in townes here aboute, that is to say, in³ Wardon, Byfeld, Wardyngton, Croppredy, Culworth, Eydon, Sulgrave, Stotesbury, 15 and other poer townes that be here abowte.

Bequests of
blankets and
sheets.

Item, I wol that Iohn⁴ Cook haue a matrasse, j. bolster, j. paire of Blankettes, ij. paire of shetis & j. pillow.

Item all the meyny⁵ shetis that I haue here for to be departed amonge my seruau^{nt}³ men & wommen.

20

Item, I wolle that Thomas Clarell haue j. paire of fyne shetis of three levys, with j. hedshete therto of ij. levys & dim. ;

Item, to Richard kyddington⁶ j. paire of fyne shetis of ij. leuys & dim. with a hedshete of ij. levys.

Item, to my Goddoughter Thomas Clarell⁷ daughter j. paire 25 of shetis of ij. levys & dim. & x li. to her mariage & j. bolle pece of Siluer.

Bequests of
miscellaneous
effects.

Item, to Thomas Bylling j. paire of Gardevyaunce⁸ which be here & j. paire of wyne botellys.

Item, to the maister of seint Thomas of Acres my table of 30 yvery that my lord of Bedford⁹ yave me.

Bequests of
articles of
clothing.

Item, to Elizabet Richard Clarell wyff,¹⁰ j. violet gowne furred

¹ iij.

² And all.

⁶ kedington.

³ Byfield, Chipping Warden, Culworth, Eydon, Stuchbury, Sulgrave, in Northamptonshire; Wardington, Cropredy, in Oxfordshire; Boddington, Northts. 43/15 is added.

⁷ Clarell his.

⁸ Gardeviens.

⁴ Jone.

⁵ meyny? = menage, household.

⁹ 'my lord Bedford gafe.' John Plantagenet (third son of Henry IV), Duke of Bedford, died 1435.

¹⁰ Elizabeth the wife of Richard Clarell.

with Amysse grey; Item, j. nother blak gowne furred with Matrons¹ pollys.

Item, to Ionet Iacob² wyff, j. violet Gowne furred with Gray.

Item, to Margarette Wlff,³ j. blak gowne furred with menyver.

5 All my other Gownes and kirtilles that thei be departed to my wommen *servauntes*⁴ with me at my departyng.

Item, to eueryche of the iiij. orders of the freris at Oxford⁵ xx s. for to say *placebo* & *dirige* with masse of *Requiem* for my housbondswle and myn oonys at my departyng and este at my moneth mynde.

In lyke wyse, to the iiij. ordres at Northampton and the ij. ordres at Coventre.

Item, that ther be departed to euery Towne here abowte xx s. that is to say Wardon, Byfeld, Wardington, Cropredy,⁶ Culworth, Eydon, Sulgrave, Stotesbury, Bodyngton and other smale townes here abowte to euery towne vj s. viij d.

Item, to Issabell knyghtley, a pece of Arasse⁷ with the Salutation.⁸

Item, to Walter Mantell, j. sprever red and grene paled.

20 Item, to Iohn Chawce⁹ the Elder, j. Sprever white with the Courteynys abowte frenged with white Sylke and a fyne qwyllte of thoo that be at london.

Item, to Margarete Wlff³ v. li.

Item, to the Prioressse of penley, vj s. viij d. and to euery Nonne of the same howse, iij s. iiij d.; Item, to the said howse vj. smale sponys syluer.

Item, to the woman that is next me at my departyng Cs., j. bolle pece, & ij. spones, and j. gowne furred with Mynkys.

Item, to Edward leek, C. wedres that be at Sewell and all my yonge hekfares that be at Sewell at my departyng; Item, to Edward leek, j. bolle pece & iiij. spones.

Item, to my Shepard at Sewell xx. wedres and xx s.

Item, to my Skryvener at london a flat pece gilt vncouered which is in a standard at london at seint Thomas of Acres.

35 Item, all my Syluer wessell (xxvj. platers) that I am *serued*

Bequests to the four Orders of Friars Mendicant at Oxford;

at Northampton; and at Coventry.

Money bequests to villages in neighbourhood (see p. 42).

Miscellaneous bequests

Bequests to Pinley Priory, co. Worc.

Bequests to servants.

[Sywell, Northamptonshire.]

¹ martin.

² Jacob his.

³ Wolfe.

⁴ *servauntes dwelling.*

⁵ Oxenford.

⁶ Cropredy.

⁷ aras.

⁸ Salutation of our lady

⁹ Iohn Chawce.

Disposal of
silver plate.

withall¹ dayly & xxxij.² sawcers which I am serued with all¹ dayly I wol that it be smytten in koyne and to be departed amonge poere housbondes here in this Contre after my Executours discrecion.

Item, ther be iij. depe disshis of Syluer: I wol that 5 pykringes³ wyff haue oon, Thomas Clarell oon, and Richard Clarell wyff the iij^{de}.

Bequest to
Fishmongers'
gild, London.

Item, to the poer men of ffyshmonger Craffte in london to be departed after the discrecion of myn Executours xx li.

[*Latin Record of Probate.*]

John Chedworth, bishop
of Lincoln,

16 June, 1462,
at Oxford,
approves the
will,

but requires
executors to
send in their
accounts.

Nouerint Vniuersi quod nos Iohannes permissione diuina 10
lincolniensis Episcopus testamentum honeste mulieris Iohanne
Buckland Relicte Ricardi Bukland armigeri nostre diocesis de-
functi cum voluntate eiusdem defuncte de anterioribus datis pre-
senti testamento annexis xvj die Iunij Anno domini Millesimo
CCCClxij^{do} apud Oxoniam dicte nostre diocesis per Magistrum 15
Iohannem Trotter et Ricardum Clarell executores in eodem
testamento nominatos exhibitum approbauimus et insinuauimus
ac pro vero testamento eiusdem pronunciauimus. **Approbacio**
Administracionem quoque omnium bonorum dicte **eiusdem.** 20
defuncte infra iurisdictionem nostram existencium
prefatis executoribus in eodem testamento nominatis, in forma
iuris iuratis, commisimus et Committimus, reseruata potestate
consimilem administracionem committendi Thome Bylling¹ co-
executori in eodem testamento nominato cum venerit admissurus, 25
compotum calculum et racionium dictorum executorum super
administracione sua huiusmodi nobis reddenda specialiter re-
seruantes. Datum die loco et anno domini supradictis Et nostre
Consecracionis Anno Decimo.

**II: Will, 145^o, of Sir Thomas Cumberworth, Knight,
of Somerby by Glanford Brigg, Lincolnshire.**

From bishop Marmaduke Lumley's Register at Lincoln, lf. 43 to lf. 46 bk. This document is in a somewhat difficult hand, and the reading in some words is quite doubtful. A feature of the deed is the abandonment of the old þ, to make use of 'y'. The testator disposes of a noteworthy collection of relics, of several devotional books, and of a MS. of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. The devotional books seem to have partly come from religious houses (Grace Dieu priory in Leicestershire, and an unnamed

¹ with.

² xxij.

³ Pykeringhis.

Friary). Special mention is made of a Latin Psalter (David sauter); of Walter Hilton's (died 1396) *de vita contemplativa et activa*, or, at least, of the second part of it; and of *de vita Christi*, possibly the treatise by Ludovicus de Saxonia, but see Bonaventura's *Speculum vitae Christi* (as noticed in *Oseney English Register*, E.E.T.S., 1913, p. ix.) Some slight peculiarities of the hand have been purposely omitted, e.g. a sort of contraction mark over *will*, several false starts, and a flourish at end of proper names.

* Anno domini 1450 : Testamentum domini Thome
Cumberworth, Militis.

- In the Name of gode and to hys loveyng, Amen. I, Thomas Cumbyrworth, knyght, the xv. day of feberzer the 3er of ouere lord M^lcccc and .l., in clere mynde & hele of body, blyssed be gode, ordan my last wyll in this wise ffolowyng.
- I ffurst, I gyff my Sawle to gode my lorde & my redempture, & my wrechid body to be Beryd in a chitte ¹ with-owte any kyste in the North yle of the parych kirke of Someretby ² be my wyfe. and I will my body ly still, my mowth opyn, vnchild, xxiiij. owrys, & after laid on bere with-owtyn anythyng peropon to couer it bot a Sheit & a blak cloth with a white crose of cloth of gold : bot I wyl my kyste be made & stande by ; &, at my bereall, giff it to hym that fillis my graue.
- Also, I gif my blissid lord gode for my mortuary ther I am bered my best hors with my best Sadill and the hernas perto, and at Stayn ³ & argum ⁴ a mortuary as law will.
- Also, I gyff to ouere blissyd lady & hir colage at lincoln, par to byde, a hole westment of redveluet cloth of gold & blak palid with white cloth of gold etwyne & both copis of the sute & my best cote of armes.
- Also, I gif to Sayn kateryn & to hir hous of lincoln ⁵ a cope- with white veluet with grene Braunches yerin & with myne armes on the hode.
- Also, I giff to the hous of thornton a cope of redde veluet opon Satyn orfrade with white damaske enbrouded.

Burial in
Somerby
Church.

Precautions
against pre-
mature burial.

A special
mortuary at
Somerby, and
ordinary mor-
tuaries at
Stain and
Argam.

Bequests to :
(a) St. Mary's
College at Lin-
coln [= Lincoln
Minster];

(b) St. Kath-
erine's priory,
Lincoln;

(c) Thornton
Abbey ;

Somerby by Glanford Brigg.

³ Stain in Withern, Lincolnshire.

⁴ Argam, near Bridlington, in
Yorkshire.

⁵ St. Katherine's priory, Lincoln,
a house of Gilbertine nuns.

⁶ ff. 43.

¹ i.e. sheet, shroud. The coffin was used to carry the body to the grave, not buried. Here a new coffin is to be made, to be given to the sexton as a gift.

² 'Someretby' is said to be

(d) the Carthusian house at Hull.

Testator's debts to be fully paid, and even the remotest indirect claims upon him.

Remission of private debts of servants and tenants. Partial remission of recorded debts of servants and tenants.

Bequests of beads (a) to the Archbishop of York;

(b) to the Abbot of Santasse (unidentified)

(c) to Ralph, 3rd baron Cromwell of Tattershall;

(d) to every regular servant of testator;

(e) to all friends.

Bequests of relics (a) to testator's chantry in Somerby church;

Also, I giff to the chartirhows at hull my best chalis gilte.

Also, I will principaly that my dettys be qwyt & acordid *with*; and wher that I haue done any wronge or extorsion, & I not acordid *yer* for that may be knawen resonably, I wil it be amend in al the hast that it gudle may.

Also, al my howsald seruants, & owt of owsald, & al my *tenantes* al that þ^e haue offendyd me & det they owe me *wnchnane*¹ to any man bot to þame & me.

And of dettes of *seruants* knoiken² & of the rent owyng to me of tenants, I will be for-giffyne to some the to-halfe, to some y^e third parte or fourte parte, be discession of my secturis, as thay knowe I am holdyn³ *yer* ned & myne affeccion.

I for-giff al *maner* of men al that y^e haue offendid me, *praying* All men that I haue offendid to for-giff me, & my secturs to Aske for-gifnys for me for charite when or wher thay think it ned.

Also, I will that my lord Cardenal of yorke⁴ haue a pare bedys of gold meynghid *with* corall, a tabelit of gold enperlid & enameld *with* emaugde *with-in*.

Also, I will my lord of santasse haue a pare off bedys of xij. bedys, *with* the gaudys gilt as I gart make *with* a litill rounde scalbid ryng of gold to hing yam by *with* halfe lettre yar-in.

Also, I will my lord Cromwell haue a pare bedys of xij. bedys *with* the gaudes qwhilke my lord Cardenale gaue me & a ryng *with* al of a litill valo.

Also, I will that euere man that has fee or cloyng⁵ of me haue a pare bedys of pekok fedys or of bone or tre whilke I gart make & by thar-for.

& al othir gud frendes, as far as they may strech, in remembrauns to *pray* for me for charite.

Also, I will my Chauntre prests haue my lityll cros of gold & thir successours *with* the peis of the crosse *yerin*, a peis of the peler* that ouere lorde was Skowrged upon *yerin*, a pais of the Roche yat ouere lady mylk es in & the ele of Saynt katernyn & of sant hoght in glasie.

* lf. 43 bk.

¹ sic: 'wnchnane' probably = 'vnknowne'.

² sic: read 'knowen'.

³ 'holdyn [in],' i. e. bound by.

⁴ John Kemp, archbishop of York, 1426: cardinal-priest, 1439; archbishop of Canterbury, 1452.

⁵ Probably in error for 'cloying'.

And I will the kirk of Stayn haue the littill halfe bruche ^(b) to the church of Stain in Withern, Lincolnshire.

Also, I will that the kirke of Somerethby & my chauntre prests & ther Successurs haue y^e chalis, bokys, vestmentes, copys, Bequests of church plate, vestments and ornaments to Somerby church, and testator's chantry there, including both those already placed there, and those ordered but not yet delivered.

Also, I will that al the onormentes ordend be me for y^e auter, for the rode loft, for the crosses, & for obetes, with vestementes & chalis & All othir things, be [by] indenture gyfen to my chauntre prest[s] to kepe, be y^e awisse & owrsight of myn hayres, yai & it¹ to worschip & serue gode in the qwer of Somerby kirke on heledays after the ordynall & yer poure, yer-to² I ordand yer bokys & vestmentes als velle as to serue my chauntre prests dayle.

And I will al this ordand to my chauntres & to worschip gode with in the kirke & the quere of Somerethby be kend be my chauntre prests as they es deuyded be indenture.

And my said chauntre prests & yer successors be ate Evynsonge Matyns & messe in the said qwhere of heledays to do the for-said service with note as I haue ordand. And I will³ athye⁴ answer to myne hayres of the kepyng of yer parte of yer godes guyne be me to yer chauntres & to yam & to yer successours denydid.

Also, I will the parson of Somerethby Erghum & stane⁵ & yer successorus haue the landes & rentis yat I haue gywyne yam for euere, payng my chauntre prests & yer successorus yer annewite 3erly, & pray for me & my wiff in yer messe & in the bedes-bedyng on sondays & for al othir as after the will of gode we ar beholdyn to gar pray fore & kep my obit & my wiffs 3erle with derige & messe & bells ryngyng.

And I wil it be doyn at Somerethby with note⁶ be the parson & my chauntre prests if it may & that my said chauntre prests

Testator's chantry-priests are to be given a written list of these provisions. Orders to be observed by testator's chantry-priests.

Endowment for these chantry priests, and for the parish clergy to have intercessory services for souls of testator and wife and all Christian souls. Orders as to these services in Somerby church.

¹ These three words are wrong: possibly = 'therewith'.

⁴ In error for 'that they'.

⁵ See notes 3 and 4, p. 45.

² Text obviously faulty. Meaning seems to be that testator intended service-books and vestments to be used in the parish services as well as in the services of his chantry.

⁶ 'cum nota', possibly = with mention of deceased by name in the Collects of the commemorative services: p. 11. Another explanation is 'with music', as opposed to a plain read service (*submissa voce*).

³ 'And I will' is repeated in error.

Requests of
devotional
books

(a) to testator's
chantry-
priests;

(b) to the rector
of Somerby;
(c) to the rector
of Argam, near
Bridlington;
(d) to the rector
of Stain in
Withern;
(e) Dominus
William
Gaunsted.

Requests of
horses to
noble friends,
who have pro-
mised to help
due observance
of testator's
will.

Testator's two
chantry-
priests to have
his horse-mill,
and each of
them an
'armoire'.

Araye the autarus & ouere sepultures with blak auterclothis, & the Couerlid¹ of Blak & the clothis of gold ordand yerto I will tha haue tham, & finde ij. serges burny[n]g upon ouere sepulturs dereges & ouere ij. messe tynes.

& I will my chauntre prests, he of the trinite auter haue my 5 boke of *grasdaw*² & he of oure lady auter my boke of *gracedew* of the sowde (*sic*) to yam & ther successurs.

And I will the parson of Somerethby haue my gret boke of *dauid sauter* at was the frerys.

& ye person of Erghum³ haue my boke of *actif life*. 10

& the person of stayne haue my boke of *uesseden*⁴ *Passion* [that] thay Ilkone haue me in mynd & in yer meditaciouns.

& Dan willzam Gaunsted will to haue my boke *de vita christi*.

Also, I will my lord of wells⁵ haue j. hors worth iiij. li. or 15 the walaw; & my Maister Richard his Sone, a hors of iiij. li. or the valo; & Iohn Staudrop⁶ a hors of xls. or the valo, & 'this mony to be paid for this hors if i haue none so gode of my nowne, if⁷ the mene that my lord of wells awes me thay to fother⁸ & help my last will to be performed of my landys as 20 they promyst me.

Item, I will my chauntre prests haue my hors mylne, & the thonne of yame [haue] ye [one⁹ of my] to almar¹⁰ & the tothir of yam the thothis almare whilke er *ordand fo[r] kepyng of vestmentes and I will yat yai hafe landes renttys annuetes tene- 25 mentes that I haue gyfyn yam & All thynges writtyn in this wille asfor or devided be indenture to yame and yer sucessurs for euere more.

* lf. 44.

¹ The pall used by the University of Oxford at obital services for King Henry VII is now an exhibit in the Ashmolean Museum.

² = Grace Dieu: see p. 44.

³ Note 4, p. 45.

⁴ ? = grace dieu.

⁵ Leo de Welles, 6th baron Welles, and his son Richard de Welles, 7th baron: both, in their turn, afterwards attained.

⁶ Stanhope.

⁷ *sic*. The text is desperate. Read (possibly) 'of my nowne of the mony that my lord of wells awes me, thay to'. The meaning is that these bequests were to keep them in mind of their promises to further the due execution of the provisions of testator's will.

⁸ 'further', i.e. help.

⁹ Text shaky, but may thus be eked out.

¹⁰ i.e. 'two armoires' or 'almars'.

Also, I will my Newew Robert Constabull haue the blak bedys of xxij. y^t [I] oft wered be my girdill & ij. old rynges with ij. gret safers in yam & my blak buke yat my wiff withid me & the gret boll of siluar with armys of Stayne in y^e cep, he
 5 to leue it to y^e right hAyres of somerethby, & the best and hole armyng harnas yat I haue & my best axe for werre. And I will he haf the whitte bede with merletes of silke with cousturs yerto for the canibur¹ for the hall for the chapill & the auter & I will he haf in Somerethby my best carte and j. of my best carthors
 10 & my best plogh and j. of my best plogh horrs & the best borde for the hye dese & all y^e side burdes ligyng dessely in the hall & the best potte & pane in the kechyn & all the ledes standyng fast in the furnas so he haske noth[ing] of right, nor travers not with my secturs, bot se & help yam [so that] my will be
 15 performede; & I will he [have] in the same [way] in my manere at Stayne of al thynges yar-in, like as I haue hordand hym in y^e maner of Somerethby and vndyr the same condicion aforsaid.

Bequests to testator's nephew, Robert Constabull,

And I will my nese Annes his wiffe haue a pare bedes of
 20 corall gawdid with gold & a ryng with A diademund yerin, & my boke of the talys of cantyrbury. I will my neis Dam Annas Constabull haue a pare bedys of corall.

and said nephew's wife, Dame Agnes Constabull, [Bequest of a 'boke of the talys of cantyrbury']

& my neysse Elizabeth hir Doughter &² red gurdyll of gold & all the perill in the gret clout & All the whit pellur y^t
 25 I haffe.

and their daughters Elizabeth and Janet,

& my neysse Janet hir doughter haue a blak girdyll of gold, all thay to pray for me.

And I will that willzam Constabull haue j. hole harnas of
 plate best next the Baslard harnast³ y^t I boght gilt.

and their son William.

30 Also, I will y^t my newew Hugh Percy haue the baslard that his fadir withid me, & the xl s. that he haws me to by with a pare bedes to hym; & A nodyr pare to my nese his wife of gold to pray for me (I wol Sche haue yame or the mony): And I will my newew, his sone haue a hole harnas of plate & a naxe
 35 of were & my nese his doghter ye perle & the opanges⁴ of my wifys knytted to gedyr in A cloute.

Bequests to his nephew Hugh Percy and wife and son and daughter.

Also, I will that Hew cresse y^e fadyr haue my bor spere & my

Bequests to Hugh Cressé

¹ = 'chambir', possibly.

³ i. e. ornamented.

² Read 'a' for 'and'.

⁴ ? = spangs.

and wife and
sons and
daughter.

nese his wife hafe a pare bedes of gold & a gold ryng with a diademund yar-in & christofore cresse a hors best of my stabull safe iij. & a hole harmor of plate & my Swirde & I will his brodyr Hugh Cresse haue a horsse of my stabull best next saue his brodyr & a haburion y^e best prikyng hate piscern¹ yer-to 5 & my dagar And I will his sister haue a russeyt silke gridyll with gilt harnas.

Bequests of
beads—
(a) to heads of
eleven reli-
gious houses
in the north-
east of Lin-
colnshire;

Also² the abot of thornton hafe a pare bedes & v marcs³ y^t he Awes me, & I will the abbot of Neusome, of haunby, y^e prior of markeby, of thornholm, of Newstede, & of elsam, *the 10 prioris⁴ of Coton, of irford, of legburn, & of Grenefeld, haue Ilkon of yam a pare bedys of corall as far as that I haue m[a]y laste, & after yiff yam gette⁵ bedes.

(b) to female
relatives;

& I will that my nese Dam Elizabet Melton hafe xl s. of the iij. pound that sche ows me to by hir a pare bedes with to pray 15 for me, & sche to giff as my⁶ Maude & dam Johan wade & dam Elizabet Thorp to ilkon vj s. viij d. in hall the hast to by yam bedes with to pray for me opon.

(c) and to
nuns.

Also, I will thar be gyfyn to the v. nones, Iohn of Cumberworth doghtyrs, & to my ij. cosyns nones in Stayn-feld⁷ & to 20 dam Alys Bolman & to Ilkon of yam a pare bedys of gete & of mony trebull⁸ of almus that schall be gyfyn to odyr nones.

Other bequests
of beads,
relics, books,
&c.

& I will the prior of Bridlington⁹ haue the Box for goddes body with the Coueryng ouere hit that hingys in the chapyll.

[A recluse in
Lincoln city.]

& y^e reclus¹⁰ of y^e grese fote at lincoln haf my roll of prayers 25 & vj. 3erdes of blanket & vj. 3erdes of lynne cloth & trebull of almus that a prioris schall haue.

Also, I will that Roberd girdyk¹¹ schall haue my litill rede

* lf. 44 bk.

¹ or 'hatepiscern'.

² The abbys of Thornton, News-
ham and Hagheby, and the priories
of Markby, Thornholm, Newstead,
Elsam, Nuncotton, Irford, Leg-
bourne, Greenfield.

³ £3 6s. 8d.

⁴ i. e. prioress.

⁵ = jet.

⁶ Something dropped: the sense
seems to be 'as my [gift to] Maude
... and'.

⁷ Stainfield priory.

⁸ i. e. of money thrice the amount.

⁹ Bridlington, Yorks., near Argam
Manor.

¹⁰ See p. 21. The 'Grese steps'
(='Grice steps' or 'Greestone Stairs')
is still the name applied to the nar-
row flights of steps which lead down
from the Vicars' Court beside Lin-
coln Minster into the town, viz. into
the street called Lindum Road.

¹¹ 'hafe' inserted here in MS., in
error.

primer lynyd with blak bawdekyn & a ryng with a hart of y^e pelar that ouere lorde was Skurged with & my best furred gowne & x. Skore schepe of the best at Somerethby.

& I will that Iohn Bulman haue my gret bedes of laumber Other bequests of live-stock, jewels, weapons, &c. with a ryng of vnicorn horne by yam & my signet of golde & my furred mantill & viij schepe¹ of ye best at Stayn or lymber or bondby².

& I will that Iohn Broghton haue x.³ schepe, halfe wedyrs, halfe yowes, of y^e best next, & my ryng with the grene stone for the crampe, & my rede sawter lynyd with welwet, & my best dobull gowne.

Also, I will Stevyn chamberlayn & Iohn hobson, Iohn Grege, harre harde, haue Ilkyn of yam A Iake & a salad & a bow & xij. Aros of the beste next my Iak, & Ilkyn of yam. xl. schepe.

Also, I will that Richard & hys Brodyr Iohn Thymelby Richard sargant haue Ilkon of yam A Iak & a salad & a Swerde & a baslard or a dagar & xx. schepe.

and I will that all odyr yomen of my howsald & the gromes⁴ of the wardrope & of the Bakhows haue Ilkon of yam a bow & xij. Aras & a doblet or A hode or a hat of my weryng & one of my grehondes⁵ or Spanells: & hew Bakare my Riding gowne.

& I will my child of the stabull haue my botys and Spores; Bequests to under-servants. & the childe of the hale my hosys; & the child of the kechynne my nethir glofys; & Ilkon of this⁶ iij. & a childe in the schipyn a 3eryng calf; And I will my scheperd haue vj. wedyr hogges; & my Swynnard iiij. Swynne (schotes of halfe 3ere old); & I will Ilkon of my hynes⁷ of mannes Age haf a quye or a strike⁸; & myn runian the day a cowe.

and I will my iij. Bedmen haue Ilkon of yam a cowe & a pare Bequests to almsmen, parish clerk, choristers (at school), and chapel-clerks. of Bedes; & I will the parich clarke haue, and Ilkon of the clarkes that I fynde to the scole, a longe gowne of myn dubull or flurrid; & to Ilkon of my nowne clerkes x. yow hoges.

Also, I will that wil3am telby haue a nax for wer * with the hede and a hande of yrne & one of my Smalest haknes. Other bequests of horses and weapons.

* If. 45.

¹ Eight score sheep.

² Great Limber, and Bonby, in the north-east of Lincolnshire.

³ x. substituted for c. or even XL (forty), as in the next paragraph.

⁴ 'gromes' in MS.

⁵ Subst. for 'grene hodes'.

⁶ = of these three.

⁷ Hinds, farm-servants.

⁸ stirk = steer.

Gratuities to persons attending the funeral:—
(a) to abbots;

& I will Iohn ferrer hafe my girdill *with* my cnyffes & my pursse *with* the mony that es *yer-in* to [buy] a horsse.

Also, I will that Swalow & Richard hornseh haf aythir of yam vjs. viij^d. & iiij. schep.

Also, I will the abbot of Neusom¹ bery my body, & do the 5
serviices messe & deryge & hafe xx s.

& if *yer* come a-nothir abbot than I will he hafe a nobyll to pray for me.

(b) to priors and prioresses;

& I will that Ilke prior & priores that comes to my beryall at y^t day hafe iij s. iiij^d. 10

(c) to monks and nuns;
(d) to priests and friars;

& ilke chanon² & Nune xij d.

& ilke prest & frere that comes to the Deryge & messe at my bereall hafe iiij d.

(e) to clerks;

& to Ilke clerk ij^d that helpys to syng or sais at Dirige.

(f) to poor people.

and Ilke pore man childe & woman hafe iiij d. 15

Provision of bread and ale at the funeral.

& all men that come to my bereall hafe mete & Drynk *with* slkyke³ stufe as was ordand for my howsald & *with* helpe of iiij li. of mony that I will be put *yer-to* at nedys.

Services appointed for the 'seventh-day', with gratuities to those present,

Also, I will the prior of thyrnholm, of Elsham, of Neusted Do my Deryge & my messe on my vij. day, & haf a nobull; and 20
Ilke of tham that comes *with* yam xij d. & Ilke prest & frere that comes to Dirige & messe iiij d, and Ilke clerke that Seynges or Says at Dirige ij d, & Ilke pore man ij d, & Ilke man that comes met & drynke *with* swylke stufe of vetell as was purwad for my howsald & *with* helpe of iiij li. of mony qwyk I will be 25
putte *yerto* at nedys.

and food and drink to all.

Directions as to torches and candles.

& I will hafe x torchis (Ilkon of yam vij li. wax), & v. serges (Ilkon of iiij li. wax at the leste), byrnyng upon me & about me at the said messes & dereges & I will the pore men that hold yam haf Ilkon of yam iiij d. beside dale⁴ of almus. 30

Services appointed for the month's-mind,

And I will the interment be made at my xxx. day & the abbot of thornton do the messe derege & the exequies, & hafe xx s. & the v *marcs*⁵ that he ows me aforsaide.

and allowances to those present.

& I will the abbot of Neusom & the abbot of Welhow⁶, yf thay both come to my xxx. day, haf athir of tham xiijs. iiij d. 35

¹ Newham.

² i. e. canon regular.

³ Mis-written for 'swylke' = suchlike, the same. The poor present at the burial were not to have

inferior bread and ale, but their share of what was baked and brewed for the deceased's household.

⁴ dole = share. ⁵ £3 6s. 8d.

⁶ Wellow Abbey, Lincolnshire.

& Ilke prior & priores that comes to the xxx. day hafe
vjs. viij d.

& Ilke chanon or none that comes to the said xxx day haf
xxd.

5 & Ilke prest & frere that comes that day to deryge & messe
haf iiij d.

& Ilke clark y^t helpes to syng or say at my derige haf ij d.

& I will Ilke pore man that comes that day to y^e dayll
haf jd.

10 & I will that the prestes haf xiiij s. iiij d. & I will the
ryngars hafe for yer ryngyng at Ilkon of the iij. days xij d. Gratuities to
priests and
ringers at all
three services.

Also I will that Ilke chanon of lincoln colage & beuerlay
colage haldyng residens¹ & bydyng yer haf xx d, & Ilke prest
y^t veres Abet² haf vij d. to pray for me & do me a messe
15 & a derege for me in the mynstre. Provision for
intercessory
services in
Lincoln and
Beverley
Minsters;
at London ;

Also, I will that mayster kere, a gray frere at london, haf
vjs. viij d.

Also, I will the Charterhows of wittam³ haf Cs. of mony, &
the Chaurterhous of hull Cs. of mony, * And the chaurtyrhous
20 of london Cs., & y^e Chartyrhous of Epworth⁴ Cs. of y^e x *marcs*
y^t tha Awe me & the hous of Bewarley Cs. of mony, prayng the
hous of wittam³ for charite bot not charyng yam, & the hous
of Beuerlay, to do emong yam Alsmany messes as a prest myst
syng in A 3er for dam William fitz William sowle & for his
25 brothyr Sowle if it like yam & I pray y^e hous of hull of london
& of Epworth ilkon of yam for charite bot not charyng yam,
to do Alsmany messys as A monk may syng in A 3er for my
wyff Saule & for myne & All Cristyn specyally after the will of
gode es & we be holden.

30 Also, I will hafe to syng for me a 3er next after my dede or
Als sone as y^a be gettyn x. prestes yat es to say *ser william*
Bekeby, or on of his ordinance, *ser Iohn* at hill or on of his
ordinance, frere more or on of his ordinance, frere Richard or on
of his ordinance, frere welby or one of his ordinance,⁵ & iiij.
35 prestes seculers & I will ij. of yam syng at y^e auter yer my wife Special pro-
vision for in-
tercessory
services by ten
special priests,
six of these
under claus-
tral rule, and
four of them
secular clergy.

* lf. 46 bk.

¹ i. e. canons residentiary.

² i. e. wears habit.

³ Witham in Somersetshire.

⁴ Epworth Priory, Lincolnshire.

⁵ There ought apparently to have
been named here a sixth monk or
friar.

& my fadyr & modyr ar bered and thys x. prestes syng for my saule & my wyfys & for al the saules y^t war¹ in speciall, be y^e will of gode, be holdyn to gar pray for & that Ilkon of yam haf C.s. & say the grege² trenthall for hus in Al the hast y^t yay may be getyn yerto.

Bequests to
parishes in
Lincoln and
Lindsey.

Also, I will yer be gyfyn to ilke parys of vij. plws³, to the prest y^t kepys the Cure⁴ vij d, to kyrk warke xx d, & to y^e pore of y^e parys xx d.

& to lytyll parysones of les⁵ plows, to y^e prest yer-of vij d, & to kyrke [warke] xij d, & to y^e pore of y^e parys xij d. thorow 10 owte lincoln & lyndesay.

Bequests to
members of
religious
houses in Lin-
coln and Lind-
sey, and in the
towns of York,
Hull, Beverley,
and Boston,
with request
for interces-
sory services.

& I will yer be gyfyn to Ilke abbot xx d. to Ilke prior & priorys & wardans xij d, & to Ilke chanon monke none & frere & prest in lincoln & lyndesay & to hilke frere in yorke hull beuerlay & boston vij d, & to Ilke syster & novys iij d, and 15 I pray hilke prest in the colyge of lincoln to say [iij] messys of ouere lady & Ilke prest in the Cite to say iij. messys of y^e trinite & Ilke prest in y^e Cuntre iij. messys of requiem & Ilke chanon & monke iij. messys of y^e natiuite of Ihesu, & Ilke frere iij. messys of y^e holy gost, & Ilke prest in beuerlay Colage iij. messes 20 of Al halows & Ilke frere of zorke iij. messes of saynt Iohn Baptist & sayn kateryn, & Ilke noues of⁶ sautre of dauid & Ilke lude frere & syster y^e sauter of ouere lorde & y^{is} pray yam in zorke schire alswele as in lincoln schire.

Bequest to
Lincoln
Minster.

Bequests to
ten parish
churches, with
request for
intercessory
services.

Provision of
candles to
burn at the
month's-mind
services.

Also, I will the mynster warke of lincoln haf xij s. iiij d. 25

Also, I will y^e kirke of somerethby, Erghum, & Stayne⁷ hafe Ilkon of yam xx s. & say for me a messe & Derige; Also I will y^e Townys * of walkyngton, Tibthorpe, Rudstan, Thikene, hund- manby, Righton, flixton,⁸ haf Ilke of yam vij d. to y^e preste y^t kepis y^e Cure,⁴ iij s. & to y^e kirke, iij s. to y^e pore of y^e towne. 30

Also, I ordan at my xxx. day to haf vij. serges of v li. byrnyng ouere my body at derege & messe & Also ij. cheregis Ilkon of x li. to bryn at derege & messe & afterwarde to be gyvyn to y^e pore kirkes as⁹ was at my wiff xxx. day.

* If. 46.

¹ = we are.

⁷ See note 5, p. 45.

² St. Gregory's.

³ ploughs.

⁸ These are in Yorkshire, Walk- ington, Tibthorp, Rudston, Tickton, Hunmanby, Reighton, Flixton, not far from Argam manor.

⁴ Excluding, therefore, impro- priators.

⁵ i. e. less (than seven).

⁶ For 'of' read 'the'.

⁹ ? = 'as was done at'.

Also I ordan xxij li. of mony with helpe of ordanyng of housalde to fede yam with at come to my xxx. day.

Provision for food and drink at the month's-mind, and for funeral robes.

Also I ordan xx. marcs of mony to clothing of sectures, my seruantes, my pore men yat schal hold the torchis.

5 Also, I will my newew Robert Constabull haf fifty li. of relage of tenantes in yorkschiere & of odyr dettes whar it suffys not. & my nese Elizabet his sister l. marcs of mony to hir helpyng.

Bequests of money to relatives and servants.

Also, I will Sir christofre Cresse and hugh Cresse haf x li. of mony & Elizabeth yer eldyst sister xx. marcs of mony to hir helpyng warde.

And I will my newew hir Eldist son haf Cs.

Also, I will Robert Girdyk haf C li. al of mony to do ye rere-charges yt I haf charchid hym.

15 Also, I will Iohn Bulman haf of mony xx li.

Also, I will Iohn Broghton haf of mony x li.

Also, I will my prestes haf xls.

Also, I will Stevyn Chambyrlayn, Iohn hovson, Iohn Grege, & harre harde, haf Ilkon of yam iiij. marcs.

20 Also I will at wilzam Coke & Richard his Brothir, & Iohn of Thymolby, haf Ilkon of yam ij marcs.

Also, I will Wilzam Telby, Iohn hardy, Richard sergant, hugh bakar, [. . .] prentoft haf Ilkon of yam xx s.

Also, I will Emond Sikirton, George [. . .], Iohn Wardrope, 25 alan andrew, ilkon of y^{is} haf vj s. viij d.

Also, I will yt my iiij. pore clarkes, my iiij. pore men, litill thom of ye halle, litill will oft¹ stabull, my schepard, my runian ye Carter & iiij. of the best plomen haf Ilkon of yam iiij s. iiij d.

30 Also, I will ye tothir iiij. hynys² yt dryfys the plogh, the Swynnarde, ye childe of ye kechyn, & my scephard of Stane haf Ilkon of yam xx d.

Also, I wil yt Iohn Tailbusse haf v. marcs³.

Also, I will yt Roberd Schefeld haf v. marcs

35 so yt yai & Al that Aske ogth⁴ of my wittword be firtheras⁵ to my last will & pray for me.

Also, I will my tenauntes yt aw me rente haf forgyn yer of to

Abatements of arrears of rent to tenants.

¹ = of the.

² 'hinds'.

³ £3 6s. 8d.

⁴ aught.

⁵ furtherers.

some y^e thred parte to some the fourt parte by dyscrecion of my sectures or of y^e more parte of yam.

Household to be kept up for half a year.

And I wold my howsald wer holdyn forth a half yer after my dede *with* the revenus of my lyvelade a half yer & *with* the resedew of my dettes & relage if it may. 5

Executors named, and overseers of the will,

My executurs of my last will make I Robert Gyrdyk, Iohn Bulman, & Iohn Broghton, & yer protectures & suppowellorse¹ my Neweu Robert Constabull, My cosyn Iohn Taylbusse, & Roberd Schefeld, prayng yam all for charite to tak y^{is} deid op^{on} yam. 10

with legacies to them,

Also, I wil y^t Roberd girdik haf Ale of myne *with-in* the maner of someretyb, al my othir godes excepte y^e plate & whilk arnot vthirwise disposid in this testament.

Also, I wil y^t Iohn Bulman haf Al my gudes *with-in* the maner oft (*sic*) Stayn except plate or woll, & gudes not vthir wise disposid in y^{is} testament. 15

And I wil Iohn Broghton haf Al the gudes in y^e maner of Erghum² except plate *or gudes vthir wise disposid in this testament,

at their own choice.

ilkone fre to helpe yam selfe *with-all* & do for me as yam shelf thynke yam be holdyn. 20

Appointment of a guardian.

Also, I wil my newew Robert constabull hafe the gouernance of Thomas withirwike & y^e profet of y^e rent & landes yat I haf of his modyr to fynde hym *with* & to fynde a prest to syng for hir Saule as far as it may suffys beside & to pay to Robert Girdyk vj. marcs³ zerly of Annewete. 25

Distribution of household stuff in testator's London house.

Also, I wil yat Steven Chambyrlayn, Iohn howson, Iohn Grege, harre hardy, Richard of kichyn, & Iohn Thymolbe haf Al the stuf y^t es in my place at london except plate or harnas platyd to skift⁴ euyne emong yam to pray for me. 30

Distribution of linen and other cloths.

Also, I will that Elizabeth bulman haf al my lynne clothis & kerchifs & lynnyn y^t es in my paynar in my cloth seke⁵ excepte lawne.

Division of lawn among

And I wil y^t all y^e lawne in the said paynar & Al Curtynys & trawers of lawne *with* a pare schetes of Smal lyncloth yat es 35

* lf. 46 bk.

³ £4.

¹ supervisors = overseers of the will.

⁴ ? shift, distribute.

⁵ i. e. clothe-sack, portmanteau.

² Argam, Yorkshire.

white be Cute in Cherchiffes & gyvyn to my *servantes* wives & to my *tenantes* wives.

and ye blak Curtyns of lawne be Cut in vailes & gyfyn to pore nones.

5 And if my¹ thyng fal in trawers² or in contrare consaytes of this my last will be-twen my sectures I wil it be expounid & performed after the consait of my newew Robert Constabull.

Also, I wil my newew Robert constabull haf Al my qwhite Swannes if so be he may reioys the maner of Stayne his live
10 & els at y^ai be solde be my sectures.

Also, I wil Al my Aras be solde & my bede of silke with Curtyns be solde & lede boght yer with to hill the qwere of Somerethby & y^e body of stayn kyrke And the surples of any lede to by vestementes & gar make to pore kyrkes aboute in y^e
15 cuntre.

Also, I wil that Al my horsys be kepid to my xxx. day be past for occupacion of myn interment to it be vtterly done.

& Also, to Ilkon of my *servantes* haf yer fee for that quarter yat I dye in [and] for a quarter after, if so be at yai will bide
20 & will be rewldid be my executurs.

III: Will, 145½, of Robert Sutton, son of Hamond Sutton, esquire, of Lincoln.

From bishop Marmaduke Lumley's Register at Lincoln, lf. 41.

* Will of Robert Sutton.

Memorandum that this is the last Wule of Robert Sutton, 23 February, 1451/2.
the son of hamond Sutton of lincoln, Esquyer, made the
xxiij. day of februarye the yere of oure lord a M cccclj.

In primis, I, Robert, by-witte my saule to almyghty god and
25 to his moder saint Marie and my body for to be buried in the
kyrke of saint Andrew in Wykford³ in lincoln.

Item I be-witte vnto my wiff all my stuff of howswold;
Item, my shippe.⁴

* lf. 41.

¹ ? 'any'.

² i. e. 'trawers', contention.

³ Wickford, or Wigford, is a

suburb on the west of Lincoln city.

The church that is left there is
St. Mary's, Wigford.

⁴ i. e. sheep.

Distribution
of wheat and
malt to the
poor.

Bequests to
servants and
relatives.

Item, I wille that alle my corne be solde (except x. quartiers of whete and malte) to pay my dettes, and that x. quartiers for to be devided for my saule to the pover people.

Item, I be-witte to Elizabet tolton xx s. and her lyuerey and her hire. 5

Item, to Thomas Roo his lyuerey and his hire and x s.

Item, to Richard Bolcesby vjs. viij d. and my dowbelet of blak clothe.

Item, to my Sister Babyngton my yong gray Aumbelyng stagg at Grysby¹. 10

Item, to my Brother Iohn Sutton v. marcs.

Item, to my Brother hamond x. marcs.

Item, a hyndde calf skynne tewed and xld. to William Ostiler.

Item, to my broper Hamond a payre of blak hoses that Saxton hathe. 15

Item, to Thomas Rothley my wodknyffe.

Item, to Iohn ffairefax a sawre² skynne tewed.

Item, to Iohn hennoure my furred iaket and my blak hode.

Item, I will that sir Iohn Sparow haue vjs. viij d. 20

Item, I will that Robert Cooke haue vj s. viij d.

Item, my white mantelle to my fader.

Item, to my broper hamond my bille.

Item, to litell Thomas, my man, vjs. viij d.

Item, to ayther of my sistres a plite of laune. 25

Item, to my ffader my hawke.

Item, to Alisone Barley, the *seruaunt* of my sister Babyngton, vjs. viii d.

Item, to Robert lincoln vjs. viij d. and his hire that is be-hynde and his liverey. 30

Item, to the other v. *seruauntes* beyng at Grysby theyre hyre and theire lyuerey and to ilkone of them xx d.

Executors
named.

Item, I will that my fader and my wiff and my broper Iohn and my broper hamond be myn executours for to dispose alle my godes for the heale of my saule as thei wold I dyd for theym 35 and thei where in like case.

Made the day and the yere afore said.

¹ Grasby, Lincolnshire.

² i. e. sore, or buck in fourth year.

Certificate of probate, before the bishop of Lincoln's official, 18 March, 1452. Executrix (testator's widow) took oath that she would send in an 'inventory' (i. e. a detailed list of all items of the estate, with the value of each).

Probatum fuit testamentum prescriptum coram officiali lincolniensi, & per ipsum probatum & approbatum xviii. die Marcij anno domini Millesimo cccc l primo; & commissa fuit administracio, &c., Vxori dicti defuncti, iurate de conficiendo Inventarium, Reseruata sibi potestate committendi aliis executoribus in eodem testamento nominatis.

IV: Will, 1452, in Latin, of Robert, 6th baron Willoughby de Eresby, with codicil, in English.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 35 bk., and lf. 36.

[I. Full Latin Text of Will.]

In dei Nomine Amen. Die martis, vj^{to} die Junij, Anno domini Millesimo CCCC^{mo} quinquagesimo secundo, Ego, Robertus Willoughby, miles, dominus de Eresby, in bona & sana memoria mea existens, condo, facio, et ordino presens testamentum meum tripartitum indentatum in hunc modum.

Testamentum domini de Wylloughby. In primis, lego et recomendo animam meam deo omnipotenti, Creatori et saluatori meo, beateque marie virgini, matri eius gloriose, et omnibus sanctis, Corpusque meum sepeliendum in Capella Collegij mei siue Cantarie beate Marie de Metyngham; videlicet, inter magnum altare eiusdem et paruam Capellam ibidem nouiter situatam.

Item, lego eidem Collegio siue Cantarie principale vestimentum meum integrum, cum tribus capis melioribus de panno aureo, duas antiphonas meliores, et duo gradale (*sic*).

Item, lego Magistro siue custodi eiusdem Collegij siue Cantarie, quinque marcas sterlingorum; et cuilibet capellano confratri eiusdem Collegij, xij s. iiij d., & cuilibet puero in choro dicti Collegij ibidem deo seruienti, xij d. ad orandum pro anima mea et animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum.

Item, lego Collegio siue Cantarie sancte Trinitatis de

Tuesday, 6 June, 1452, testator, in sound memory, makes his will triply indented.

Burial asked at entrance to testator's new-built chantry-chapel in Mettingham church, Suffolk.

Bequests (to that chantry) of vestments, and service-books.

Bequests to the Warden, Brethren, and Choristers of the Willoughby chantry there.

Bequest to St. Trinity

chantry in
Spilsby
church, Lin-
colnshire.
Bequest to
Black Friars
(Friars Preach-
ers) in Boston,
Lincolnshire,
to redeem
pledged valu-
ables, and to
the other
orders of Men-
dicant Friars
there.

Bequest to
Alvingham
priory, for
repair of
buildings.

Bequests to:—
(a) Hagnaby
abbey;

(b) Campsey
abbey, Suffolk;
(c) St. George
Martyr's gild
in Boston
church.

Marriage-
portion to a kins-
woman
(£62 13s. 4d.).

Manor of
Howe, co. Nor-
folk, to be
given to
Mettingham
chantry to
endow an
additional
chantry-priest
there.

Testator's ser-
vants to be
paid their
wages.

Testator's
debts to be
paid.

Gratuities

(a) to members
of testator's
chapel;

(b) to gentle-
men of testa-
tor's house-
hold;

* Spyllesby, ad fabricam et sustentacionem eiusdem, xx li. sterlingorum.

Item, lego priori et Conuentui fratrum predicatorum de Boston in partem pro iocalibus suis impignoratis exonerandis x. marcas ¹ sterlingorum. 5

Item, lego tribus alijs ordinibus ² fratrum mendicantium in eadem villa, vt ipsi fratres deo animam meam habeant specialiter recommendatam, scilicet cuilibet ordini xl s. sterlingorum.

Item, lego monialibus de Aluyngham ad reparacionem edificacionem et emendacionem dormitorij sui et domorum interiorum 10 suarum, x li. sterlingorum.

Item, lego Monasterio de hagneby vnum vestimentum ad valorem xx. marcarum ³.

Et Monasterium (*sic*) de Campesse vnum vestimentum precij x li. sterlingorum. 15

Et Gilde siue fraternitati sancti georgij martiris in Ecclesia parochiali de Boston fundate, pro vno vestimento sibi emendo, x li. sterlingorum.

Item, lego Alianore ffithhugh, consanguinee mee, ad maritagi-
um suum (post debita mea soluta) Centum marcas sterlingo- 20
rum.

Item, volo et requiro feoffatos meos, quod Magister siue Custos dicti Collegij siue Cantarie de Metyngham et confratres sui habeant et teneant, sibi et successoribus suis, Manerium de howe in Comitatu No[r]folchie cum pertinencijs, cum condicione 25 quod habeant vnum alium confratrem, vltra numerum eorum qui nunc sunt, ad celebrandum in parua Capella ibidem nouissime situata pro anima mea et animabus vxorum mearum, et omnium fidelium defunctorum.

Item, volo quod omnes seruientes mei plenarie persoluantur 30 de eorum vadijs que eis debeo, absque contradiccione aliquali.

Et volo quod omnia debita mea soluantur primitus et ante omnia.

Item, lego gentibus Capelle mee distribuendas inter eas pro earum regardis vltra earum vadia xx^{ti} li. sterlingorum. 35

Item, lego cuilibet generoso hospicij mei pro suis regardis, vltra sua vadia xl s. sterlingorum.

* 1. 36.

¹ = £6 13s. 4d.

Franciscan or Minorite), and Austin Friars.

² White (or Carmelite), Grey (or

³ = £13 6s. 8d.

Et cuilibet valecto vltra sua vadia, scilicet xx s. sterlingorum, (c) to yeomen of same;

Et cuilibet Garcioni hospicij mei, simili modo, x s. (d) to groomes of same.

Item, volo quod vna scedula que erit huic testamento annexa Codicil, which follows, to be in omnibus perimpleteatur, sicut istud testamentum, et tanquam part of this will.

5 parcella eiusdem. Huius autem testamenti mei ordino, facio, et constituo Nine executors named.

Iohannem, vicecomitem Beaumont,¹ Militem; Radulphum,

dominum de Cromwell,² militem; Magistrum Iohannem Derby,

clericum; Iohannem haydon, Ricardum Benyngton, Iohannem

10 Dymmok, Iohannem Dillewe, Ricardum ffendyk, et dionisum

wylles, executores; vt ipsi faciant, ordinent, et disponant pro

anima mea in execucione et performacione voluntatis mee, &

huius testamenti mei, prout ipsi coram summo

Vltima voluntas Judice voluerint respondere.

dicti domini de

15 Wylloughby.

In cuius rei testimonium huic presenti Will attested by testator's

testamento meo, tripartito & indentato, signature and

signo meo manuali signato, sigillum meum apposui. seal.

datum die, loco, et anno domini supradictis.

[II. Full Text of English Codicil.]

I, Robert, lord willoughby, wol and pray my feoffes and Testator's estate is to be
20 Executours that Iohn Oumfray, Thomas halbertoft, herry responsible for
Botermouthe, Simon Iohnson, and Richard Walker, be saued all charges incurred by testator's nephew
harmelesse of the summe of money that thei be bownden in to William Willoughby in regard of manslaughter of
thomas kyme for the matier betwix my neveu William William Kyme.
Wylloughby and other my seruau^{nt}z and him as for the dethe
25 of william kyme and other matiers that wer betwene hem.

Also, I wol that all maner of wommen to whome I haue granted Testator's grants to women-
any fees, annuetes, yerely rentis, or fermes, either for terme of tenants to remain
lyve or terme of yecris, haue and reiose the same fees, annuetes, undisturbed.
yerely rentys, and fermes, after the fourme and tenour of theire
30 grauntes, withouten any interuption of myn heires in any wise.

Also, I wol that Iohan^s lowe, Robert Parys, william Wyte, Testator's sale
and Thomas walsoken, haue and reioyse theire bargayn of the of timber in
Wylloughby wood, to four
men, to hold
good.

¹ John Beaumont, 6th baron and 1st viscount Beaumont, the first instance of that dignity in England, K.G., died 1459.

Cromwell (of Tattershall), died 1455. His niece, Maud Stanhope, was testator's wife.

² i. e. John.

² Ralph Cromwell, 3rd baron

tymbir and wod of willughby wod ¹, which I haue solde to hem after the tencur and fourme of theire indenture, withouten any interupcion of my heires or any other persone in any wyse, and the mony dewe therfore to be delyuered to myn executours for to perfourme therwith my will and to pay my dettes. 5

Testator's grants of freedom to serfs to be scrupulously observed.

Also, I wol that al those persones to whom I haue graunted any manumysson, thei reioyse theire fraunchese a[n]d fredom for euermore, like as I haue graunted hem, withouten any interupcion of my said heires in any wise.

All sums of money borrowed by testator to be paid off in full, and testator's sureties discharged of all liability.

Also, I wol that all those persones the which be bounden 10 for me in any summes of mony to any persone be saved harmlesse And that the said summes be payed by myn Executours with owte any Interupcion and hurt of the * said persones or any of thayme.

Additional executor named.

Also, I wolle and pray my Cosyn, Iohn Wylloughby, Esquier, 15 to be oon of myn Executours with other that be lymtyed in my testament, for to execute my said wille and testament.

Testator's wish to settle certain furniture as heirlooms at Eresby house.

Also, I wol that a bed of Ermynes and a nother Bed with Buckingham Armys and the Almysdisch of Syluer be leffte at Eresby and a-bide stytle there to thaym that shall haue the 20 same place.

Five manors and other lands bought by testator are to be sold, and the proceeds applied to carrying out this will.

Also, I wolle that the manoyers of fulstowe,² Arsyk, Burgh, Parteney, ffodrynghey, and all other landis and tenementz that I haue purchased, be solde by³ my feoffies, and the mony therof commyng to be delyuered to myn executours to pay my dettes 25 and to performe my wille and testament, that is to say, as wel in Northfolk, Southfolk, lincolnshire, and all other places within england.

Bequests of plate, furniture, &c., to testator's wife.

Also, I wol that Mawde my wyffe haue ij. standing coppes couered, iiij. bolles with a coueryng, ij. small pottes and a grete 30 potte, and xvj. peces of Syluer vessell in the kychyn, and a basyn and j. Ewer of syluer, A Red bed of Tapestrye and a grene Bed of worsted, iij. federbeddes (that is to say oon of the best and ij. meners), a twanne of Wyne, a grete salt seler couered, and a nother salt saler playne couered, and a yong palfray white. 35

* If. 36 bk.

¹ In Lindsey, Lincolnshire.

² Fulstow, Burgh, and Partney are in Lindsey (Lincolnshire). Ar-

syk and ffodrynghey I have not identified.

³ MS. reads 'to'.

And I wol that maistier Iohn depyng haue a bayed palfrey that I bought late. Requests to servants,

Also, I wol that Iohn dillewe, styward of my houshold, be saved harmelesse as for al maner of vitayle that he hath taken for my houshold, that he be not Charged with more to pay to my creditours than he hath receyved.

Also, I wol that the ij. lordys myn executours haue for their labours eyther of hem a Courser. Also, I wol that iche of myn Executours haue for their labours xli, so that thei take the charge; And thei that wol not take the Charge, that their parte remayne to them that wol take the Charge; Also, I wol that if any of myn executours wol bye any of my goodes withoute any deceyt that they bye hit. and executors,

Also, I wol that euery yoman of my Chambræ haue for their reward xls.; Also, Iohn prestbury xx s., And Richard legbourne x s. Further bequests to servants.

[Note.]

[There is also a Latin will of Lord Willoughby, on lf. 42 bk. of bishop John Chedworth's register, dated January 9, 1448. He says he has already made a will, and requires his executors to act justly. He says the bishop of Lincoln,¹ Viscount Beaumont,² Lord Fitzhugh,³ Lord Cromwell,⁴ Iohn Portyngton, and others, are feoffed in various manors and tenements belonging to him. His wife is to have her dowry immediately on his death, from these manors, on condition that she makes Lord Cromwell⁴ stay any actions that he may have against his executors, on account of any writing, or cause, touching himself. And, if his feoffees in the manors he mentions refuse to perform his wishes, his wife is to have her dowry from other manors. He says also that Lord Leo de Wells⁵ might possibly bring actions against his executors on account of writings, or agreements.]

¹ William Alnwick, bishop, 1439-49.

² John Beaumont, 1st viscount: see note 1, p. 61.

³ William Fitzhugh, 4th baron by writ, died 1452.

⁴ Robert, baron Willoughby's (second) wife was Maud, daughter of Sir Richard Stanhope, knight,

and niece and co-heiress of Ralph, baron Cromwell of Tattershall: see note 2, p. 61.

⁵ Robert, 6th baron Willoughby's daughter and sole heiress, Joan Willoughby, had married Sir Robert Welles, eldest son of Leo de Welles, 6th baron de Welles (slain at Towton, 1461, and attainted).

V: Will, 145 $\frac{3}{4}$, of Richard Archer, of St. Andrew's parish, presumably in Lincoln city.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 21 and 21 bk.

12 March,
32 Hen. VI
(145 $\frac{3}{4}$).

* In the name of god so be it, the xij. day of the moneth of Marche the yere of oure lord M CCCC liij, the Reyne of king henry the sext after the conquest xxxij.,
Testamentum Ricardi Archier. I, Richard Archer, † of good mynde and memory beyng, make and ordeyne this my 5 present testament in this maner.

Burial in St. Andrew's churchyard (? Lincoln).

ffirst, I beqwethe my sowle vnto almyghty god, to oure blessed lady his moder, and to alle the seintes of hevyne and my body to be buried in the Churcheyerd of saint Andrew.¹

Bequests to that church.

Also, I wol first and principally above alle other thinges that 10 my dettys the which I owe be satisfied after my power.

Also, I beqwethe to the boke² of the same Church xij d. & j. shep: Also, I beqweth to the sustentacion of all the lightes beyng in the same churche, iijs.

Also, I beqwethe vnto Alson Qwenehawe my doughter a 15 shipchist.

John Archer, testator's son, citizen of London, is to administer the estate,

The residew of alle my goodes not above beqwethen (after my sepulture honestly doon, my dettis payed, and my beqwetis fulfilled) I giff and beqwethe to Iohn Archier, Citezin of london, for to dispose it betwene my childern as him semeth best to 20 plese god and to the profute of my sowle.

as executor.

Of this my presente testament I make my principall Executour Iohn Archier my sonne.

In the wyttensse of which I haue putto my seale; yeven the day and the yere foresaid, theis wittensse Richard Archier 25 the yonger, Iohn thressher, William Archier, Robert Archier and other moo.

Executor admitted by William Wytham, commissary of the Bishop of Lincoln, in his Lodging (of exempt jurisdiction) at the Old Temple, London, April 2, 1454.

* lf. 21.

† lf. 21 bk.

³ Note 3, p. 57.

² By this bequest testator wished to have his name placed on the book (i. e. bead-roll) of the parish.

VI: Official Letter, 1454, from Christchurch, in Hampshire, testifying that Margery, wife of John Simon *alias* Grice, is still alive.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 20 bk. The letter was no doubt enrolled in respect of some matrimonial suit. The following notes taken from the official minute-book of the Archdeacon of Essex may serve, although of much later date, to suggest the nature and the frequency of such suits.

2 May, 1592: before the Official of the Archdeacon of Essex, in a Court held in Romford chapel, Essex, Susan Clarke of Barking, Essex, accused of bigamy, produced a certificate from householders of Tattershall, Lincolnshire, that her pretended husband . . . Bowlt, and also her pretended husband . . . Gryse, had both of them wyves lyving when they maryed with Susan: and afterwards, and by due order of lawe, she was separated from them both. She produced also a certificate that her husband, William Clarke, was recently deceased. The charge was withdrawn.

3 May, 1592: before the Official of the Archdeacon of Essex, in a Court held in Ingatestone church, Essex, John Wylson of Laindon Hills, was ordered to bring a certificate of his marriage with Joan Streates; and to answer the charge that, at the time of that marriage, he had another wif lyvinge.

5 May, 1592, Richard Weston, of Sutton, Essex, was brought into the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex, held at Maldon, because suspected to have two wives alive, and not lawfully maryed to her that he now kepeth. His defence was that his first wife (Ellen Browne) had died at Fulham beyond London.

24 April, 1593, Jaspar Harman, of Grays Thurrock, Essex, was prosecuted in a Court of the Archdeacon of Essex held in Romford chapel, on the charge that he hath ii. wyves. His plea was: about xvi. yeres agone he was married in Eastwood church, Essex, to Margaret Battell, with whom he continued about 10 or 12 yeres; and since that time, about a yere last past, he was married in Rushmore parish church, neare vnto Ipswich in Suffock, to Agnes Ive, with whome he continueth; and that both the same women are yet living, and he not deforced from any of them.

He was ordered to stand in Romford market, next market-day, in a white sheet, with a writing on his head setting forth his offence. The Bailiff of the market was to see and certify that this was done.

* This lettre, made at Cristchurch in the shire of South-
Tampton, the laste day of December the yere of oure lord
king herry vj^t xxxij. yere, berith wittenesse that Iohn Simon, fuller, otherwise called Iohn Grice, in the towne of vvycombe

31 December
33 Henr. VI
(1454),
that John
Simon *alias*
Grice, some-

* lf. 20 bk.

time of Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, married Margery Smyth, of Freshwater, Isle of Wight, 13 Henr. VI (1435), and that said Margery Simon is now living at Milford in Hampshire, is certified by the mayor and others of Christchurch, Hampshire.

in the shire of Buckingham, sumtyme the *seruaunt* of John Righe, of the said towne of Cristchurche, Married Margery the doughter of Galfrid smyth of the parisch of freschwatir in the Ile of wyght, the *seruaunt* of Thomas ffychett, the yere of oure lord king forsaied xiiij. yere, the which Margery is lyvyng at 5

testimoniale quod vxor
Iohannis Simon
alias Grice viuut.

Mylleford in the shire of Southampton
forsaied within the hunderith of Crist-
churche; to the which wytnesses vve
setto oure sealis Iohn Shipman, Maire

of the said towne of Cristchurche; Thomas ffychet, henry herdy, 10
constabiles; William Brownyng, Bayly of the same Towne;
Iohn Ryghe, Richard hamond, Richard Baker, Roger Bright,
and Robert Mason, &c.

VII: Will, 145 $\frac{4}{5}$, and codicil, of Joan Ralegh, widow
of Simon Ralegh, of Elvedon in Goring parish,
Oxfordshire.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 38 and lf. 38 bk.
The will is a strange jumble of Latin and English, such as is often found
in wills of this period.

[I. *Latin Text of Will.*]

19 January,
1454/5.

Burial in
churchyard of
Nettlecombe,
Somerset.

Bequest of a
bell to that
church.

* In dei nomine Amen. xix^o die mensis Ianuarij Anno domini
Millesimo CCCC l quarto, Ego, Iohanna Ralegh, sana mentis, 15
licet egra ¹ in corpore, condo testamentum meum in hunc modum.

In primis, lego animam meam deo omnipotenti, corpusque
meum ad sepeliendum in Cimiterio beate Marie de Nettel-
combe, ² iuxta sepulturam Simonis Ralegh
Testamentum mariti mei. 20
Iohanne Ralegh.

Item, lego ecclesie predictae xviii li. ad
emendandum Campanam.

Item, lego cuilibet of my Godchilderen, vjs. viij d.

Item, lego Iohanni Schalewyk j. lectum, ³ j. par lodicum, j. par
lintheaminum de flemmysh, j. pyllow cooperatum cum coreo. 25

* lf. 38.

¹ MS. has 'eger'.

² This lady (in her own right) of
an Oxfordshire manor had married a
member of a well-known Somerset-

shire territorial family, a Ralegh
of Nettlecombe in that county, who
had been buried there among his
kindred.

³ MS. has 'tectum'.

Item, lego Willihelmo Gilbert iij. Cocliaria argentea, optimam mappam de Browne flemmysh, ij. towalles wrought non optima, xx. oues, j. vaccam, xl s., j. ollam eneam de melioribus, j. patenam eneam de meliore, iiij. platiers, iiij. disshes, iiij. saucers de 5 optimis, ij. Candelstykkas de ij. optimis,¹ j. brode basyn of latyn, j. lectum² cum lodice lintheaminibus & materas, j. pyllough, optimam bigam cum j. equo optimo & le harnesse pro ipso, j. hoggeshed cum ij. kyurers.

Item, lego Iohanne vxori sue j. vaccam, xx. oues, & xx s.

10 Item, lego ecclesie parochiali de Goryng, specialiter vt orent pro animabus Simonis Ralegh & Iohanne vxoris sue, xx s.

Bequest to
Goring
church,
Oxfordshire.

Item, lego Thome luffyngcote, j. lectum de Rubio cum j. selour & testour de eadem, j. materas, ij. lodices, ij. lintheamina de flemmyshclothe, j. hedshete, j. pillow, & xx s.

15 Item, lego Nicholao luffyngcote j. paire blankettes, ij. lintheamina, j. helyng, & xx s.

Item, lego Iohanne Saunderton, si viuit, j. peciam argenti cum volucris in le bottom, xl s., j. lectum de Blew worsted cum ij. Curtayns, j. hylling, ij. tapettys, j. paire lodicum de fustian 20 de iiij. foliis,³ j. nouam fetherbed cum j. bolster de eodem, j. par lintheaminum de holandcloth de ij. folijs cum j. hedshete & j. pyllough de fustian cooperatum cum Raynes.

Item, lego Roberto perat secundum optimum equum⁴ iuxta willihelmu Gilbert cum toto apparatu pro ipso equo, j. vaccam, 25 xx. oues, iiij. platers, iiij. disches, iiij. saucers, j. lectum², j. lodicem, j. par lintheaminum, j. mappam de Browne flemmysh, & xx s.

Item, lego Iohanni hide xx s.

Item, lego ad conuentum de Goryng xx s.

30 Item, lego Mauricio Brewer vjs. viij d.

Bequest to
Goring priory,
Oxfordshire.

Item, lego Alicie flaucon optimam materas cum j. pari de veteribus * blankettis de fustian, j. paire shetys de Holandclothe, de ij. leffes,⁵ secundum optimum Wrought bordcloth cum j. pari towalles de eadem, dim.⁶ dosene de peautre⁷ vesselles de optimis 35 cum j. chargier, iiij. cocliaria argentea, & j. pillough de fustian.

* lf. 38 bk.

¹ Of the second best.

² MS. has 'tectum'.

³ folia = leaves; see p. 37.

⁴ MS. has 'equum'.

⁵ = leaves: see p. 37.

⁶ dimidium = half.

⁷ = pewter.

Item, lego Thome ffauconer, si transire voluerit ad curiam¹ istis tribus annis sequentibus, quolibet anno iij^{or} marcas,² aliter non.

Item, lego Radulpho ffauconer si transire voluerit ad seruicium³ istis tribus annis sequentibus, quolibet anno xl s., aliter non. 5

Residuum vero bonorum meorum non legatorum, post debita mea soluta, do et lego executoribus meis.

Appointment
of executors
and of overseer
of the will.

Ordino et constituo meos executores Thomam luffyngcote et Iohannem Schalewyk, vt ipsi disponant pro anima mea meliore modo quo sciuerint, Et ordino Edmundum Rede⁴ armigerum superuisorem vt omnia ista predicta sint fideliter acta & ipse percipiet pro labore suo xx s. 10

[II. *English Text of Codicil.*]

Elvedon manor (Woodcote excepted) is to be held in trust until the sum of £132 6s. 8d. is accumulated for chantry purposes, and afterwards to be settled on Thomas Luffyngcote, subject to certain annuities and bequests.

Wite all maner men me⁶ Iohane Raleghe, that it is my laste wille that all my maner of Ilvendon,⁶ with his appurtenaunce, in the shires of Oxenford & Barkes (outetake Wodcote, 15 with his appurtenaunce, the wich Thomas luffyngcote shal haue anon after day of my dethe to him and to his heires & assignes), And all that other deel shal be in my Executours handes xij. yeris and aslong till thei haue therof CC. marcas to deel hit for

my sowle and for the sowles that the manoire 20
Vltima Voluntas cam of; & after theke CC. marcas comme
dicte defuncte vp, thanne the hole maner turne to Thomas luffyngcote & his heires & assignes for euer-more, owte take v. marcas⁷ of a yerly rent to Iohn haselden yerly, terme of his liff, & x. marcas⁸ in monye to Iohan Saunderton at the 25
day of her mariage, with that it be to my worship and my profuct; Also xx s. yerly who so haue the manoyer to do for my sowle and for the sowles afore said. And ouer all this

¹ = 'if he will come across (? the river Thames) to the Court (of Elvedon manor).' It would appear that there had been some contention between the two Fauconers and testatrix as to their obligation to attend her manorial court, so that she made her legacies to them dependent on their giving her a posthumous triumph in this matter, for three successive years.

² £2 13s. 4d.

³ ad seruicium = to do his suit to court.

⁴ Edmund Rede, of Boarstall, Buckinghamshire: Wood's *City of Oxford*, ii. 455.

⁵ Apparently 'let me, Joan Raleigh, inform all men'.

⁶ There was formerly a manor called Elvedon in or near Goring parish, Oxfordshire.

⁷ = £3 6s. 8d.

⁸ = £6 13s. 4d.

I charge¹ the said Thomas, as he wol answeere before god, that, after CC. *marces comme* vp, that he deele, yeerly, as he may bere, asmoche monye as the place shuld be sold fore at the vttest.

and all my houshold to be kept hole to Michaelmasse next
5 *commynng* after the day of my dethe.

Also I charge al my feoffes & Executours that thei wol perfourme this, for this is my laste wille, as thei wol answeere tofore god, for this is my last wille, orellus thei to haue the same blessing that Crist yaff kayme.²

10 Writte at Ilvenden the Sondag next after seint hillary day 19 January, 1454.
the yere of king henry the sext the xxxiiijth.

[III. *Text of Probate.*]

Tenore presencium Nouerint vniuersi quod nos Iohannes, John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln, permissione diuina lincolniensis Episcopus, testamentum honeste mulieris Iohanne Rayleigh, nuper nostre diocesis, defuncte et
15 eius Codicillum vltimam voluntatem eiusdem defuncte concernentem presentibus annexum, xvij^o die february Anno 17 February, 1454/5, in his lodging at Old Temple, London, approves the will and codicil;
domini Millesimo CCCC liij^{to}, infra nostrum hospicium apud
vetus templum london, iurisdiccioni nostre exempte³, exhibita et
probata approbauimus & insinuauimus, et tenore presencium
20 approbamus & insinuamus, ac pro valore eiusdem pronunciamus.

Administracionem quoque omnium & singulorum
Approbacio bonorum, que eadem defuncta tempore mortis sue
eorundem. obtinuit, Thome luffingcote executori in eodem
testamento eciam nominato, in forma iuris iurato, commisimus:
25 et committimus similem Administracionem alij coexecutori in
eodem testamento eciam nominato. Necnon compotum ca[1]-
culum & racionium administracionis huiusmodi bonorum nobis
specialiter reseruantes. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum
nostrum ad causas presentibus est appensum. datum die, loco, et
30 Anno domini supradictis, Et nostre consecracionis Anno tercio.

¹ By convenient yearly instalments, he is to lay out on intercessory services a sum equal to the marketable price of the manor.

² or 'kayne'. ?Cain. If we apply here 'the daring anachronism' of Hebr. xi. 26, this may be taken to refer to 'the curse of Cain' in

Gen. iv. 11, 12. Less likely is Epistle of Jude verse 11: 'Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain.'

³ = under jurisdiction of the see of Lincoln, although locally in London diocese: cp. p. 64.

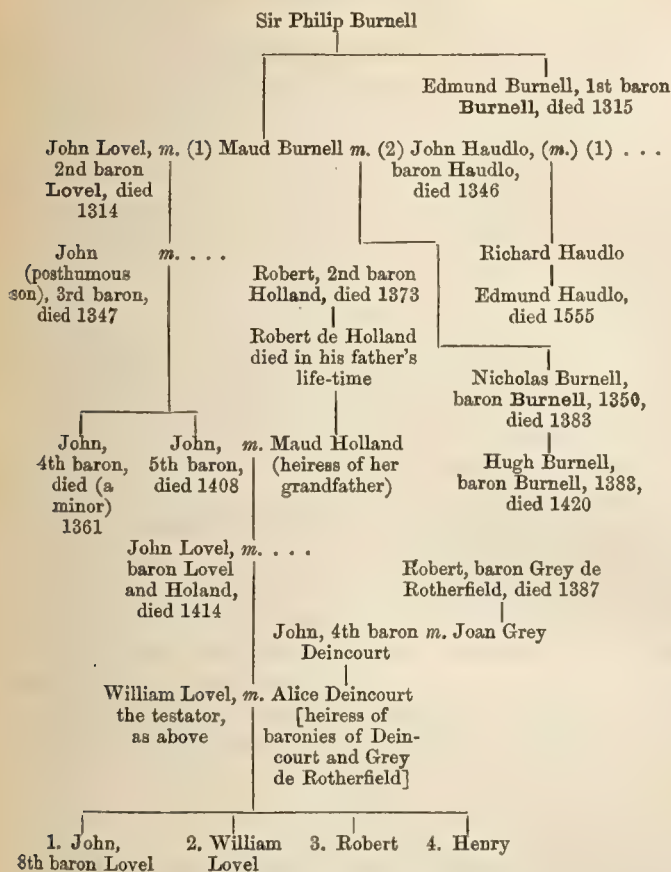
and admits Thomas Luffingcote to executorship, reserving right to admit his co-executor, and requiring inventory and accounts to be sent in.

VIII: Will, 145 $\frac{4}{5}$, with two codicils, of William, seventh baron Lovel of Tichmarsh, whereby provision was made for the foundation of a two-priest chantry-chapel in the Greyfriars Convent, Oxford, and there was laid down a complicated entail of testator's estates among his four sons and their heirs male.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 22 bk. to lf. 26. The estate was a large and complicated one; and the ultimate division of its members, under entail, between testator's four sons was far from simple. The intention of the will and codicils is also greatly obscured by the absence of information as to the most important item of the demise, viz. the estates settled on testator's eldest son (his successor in his baronies).

The Lovel family was by origin of Minster Lovel, Oxfordshire. According to the *Peerages* accessible to me, the testator, William Lovel, at the age of 17, succeeded his father John Lovel (6th baron), in 1414, as 7th baron Lovel (of Tichmarsh, Northamptonshire), and was summoned as a baron to Parliament from 1425 to 1453. He also succeeded his father in the barony of Holland (or Holand), which had been brought into the Lovel family by the marriage of Maud, granddaughter and heiress of Robert de Holland, 2nd baron Holland (1342-73), to John, 5th baron Lovel, testator's grandfather. The barony of Burnell, to which the testator here asserts his claim, seems to have been without official recognition. Edward Burnell, first baron Burnell, was summoned to Parliament 1311 to 1314, but died 1315, leaving his sister Maud as his heiress. At his death the barony of Burnell became, in law, extinct. Maud Burnell married, as her first husband, John Lovel, 2nd baron Lovel of Tichmarsh, who died 1314; and as her second husband, Sir John Haudlo, summoned to Parliament as baron Haudlo 1342. By one of the perplexing intricacies of the Peerage writs, the summonses to Parliament, 1350-1420, directed to baron Burnell, were sent to Maud Burnell's descendants by her second marriage, but the Lovel family seems to have obstinately, in word at least, persevered in its claim to the title.

The whole proceeding can best be understood by a rough pedigree:



The Peerage problems are worked out in the larger modern *Peerages*. All that concerns us here is to note that these accumulated peerages brought into the Lovel family not only the ownership of the estates of those baronies, but also, according to the ideas of the age, the obligation to provide and maintain intercessory services for members of the extinct families (*supra* 68/20). Hence, testator's intense desire for a perpetual two-priest chantry.

William Lovel, 7th baron Lovel, by a marriage which reminds us of the epigram *Tu, felix Austria, nubes*, had brought into his family, besides the two baronies he inherited, and the

barony he claimed, two other baronies. He had, therefore, an exceptional number of manors to dispose of in his will. If we had access to his marriage-settlement, we should probably find that it directed him to entail certain of his wife's manors on their younger sons.

The foundation of this chantry-chapel might well be used as a foot-note appended to a lament over the vanity of human wishes, as expressed in the telling lines of Robert Burns:

The best laid schemes o' mice an' men
Gang aft agley.

Greyfriars Convent in Oxford, by the fame of Roger Bacon, was the best-known house of the Order in England. Its church was one of the greatest. But, at the Dissolution, it was so completely destroyed, that all memory of the Lovel chapel was rooted out. Anthony Wood (*City of Oxford*, ii. 383), making his list of eminent persons buried in this church, has no mention of William, Lord Lovel. The fact was first brought to light by Alfred Gibbons in his list of *Early Lincoln Wills*, 1888. Even the admirable monograph on *The Grey Friars in Oxford*, by A. G. Little (O.H.S. 1892) could only add (p. 106) that in the arrangements made by lord Lovel for his burial here 'a bequest would no doubt be included'. Railway cuttings, botanists tell us, often bring back to a district plants long extinct there, and so now Dr. Furnivall's research has brought to light this long-forgotten Lovel chantry in Oxford.

[I. *Full Text of the Will.*]

18 March,
1454/5.

* In the name of the blessed trinite ffader and son and holy gost, I, William lord lovell Burnell and of holand, hole of mynde & of body, make my testament in the maner and fourme that folowith:

ffirst, I beqweth my soule to allmyghty god my creature¹ 5 that bought me with his precieuse blode, and to his blessed moder saint Mary, and to all the holy seintes of hevyn, and my body to be buried at the Grayfreris of Oxenford in suche place as I haue apoynted.

And I wol that within viij. dayes after my dethe a Mⁱ Messes 10 be don for my soule.

* If. 22 bk.

¹ = creator.

Burial asked
in Greyfriars
Church,
Oxford.
One thousand
masses to be
said in eight
days.

Also I wol that my feoffies in and of all my Manourys landis and tenementes, with thappurtenaunce, in ¹ Acton Burnell, wotton, Croston, Sutton, holgote, Abbeton, Millynchop, Ewdon Burnell, Acton Raynard, longedon, vppynton, Rowton, Am-
 5 baston, Chatwall, wolstauton, Smethcote, Russhebury, hope-
 bowdelere, and Condouer, with the membirs in the shire of Salop and in all my landis & tenementes in Nantewich in the shire of Chester not appoynted to my sone herry, the which I haue enfeoffed vppon grete truste, I wol that my said feoffies
 10 occupie and haue all my said Manoures landis and tenementes with thappurtenaunce after my decesse by the terme of ix yere and that ther be a sufficient persone ordeyned by the aduysse of my said feoffes and Executours to receyve all the Issuez and profutes of the said Manoyers
Testamentum domini
 15 de lovell. landis and tenementz and therwith to pay CCxxij li. xiiij s. iiij d. that I owe to diuerse persones as hit is conteyned in a papir, onlesse thanne I pay hit in my liff.

Testator's Trustees of his Shropshire manors and his Cheshire estates (such as are not settled on his son Harry), are to hold these manors and estates for 9 years after testator's death, employing during that period a competent rent-receiver for them, in order (a) to pay testator's debts, as scheduled;

Also I wol pat a Chapell and a tombe be made for me and my
 20 wiff, conuenient for oure astatez that god hathe called vs to, of the same Issuez and profutez, in the place where we shall be buried.

(b) to build a Lovel memorial chapel, with sufficient monument, in Greyfriars church, Oxford;

And where I haue apoynted xx li. of lyvelode to be purchased with the same Issues and profutez (onlesse than I purchase hit
 25 my self in my liff) to be amorteysed for ij. Prestis to singe perpetuelly for the sowles of me, my wiff, and of oure Awncesters, I wol that, of the same Issuez and profutez, all the costis aboute the said amortement be had and borne.

(c) to provide a yearly endowment of £20, for two chantry-priests in that chapel, this endowment to be net and clear of all charges incurred in settling it; (d) to pay (for intercessory services) the Greyfriars of Oxford, as

Also, I wol that the same Grayfreris shall haue CC. marces²
 30 or the valu. Wherof part shall be in redy monye and the remanent in ornamentz of their church (by the discrecion of my wiff my feoffes and executurs or the more parte of theym), to pray specially for the sowles of me and of my wyff.

¹ Acton-Burnell, Wootton, Croston in Clunbury parish, Sutton, Holdgate, Abdon, Millichope in Munsalw parish, Ewdon Burnell in Chetton parish, Acton Reynold in

Shawbury parish, Longdon, Uppington, Rowton, Admaston, Chatwall, Woolstaston, Smethcote, Rushbury, Hope-Bowdler, Condover.

² = £133 6s. 8d.

also the Black-
friars, White-
friars, and
Austinfriars
of Oxford, and
Bruerne
Abbey;
(e) and to
provide
a marriage-
portion for
testator's
grand-
daughter.
Rent-receiver
of these
manors and
estates is to
have his
accounts
audited yearly.
Trustees, at
end of the
nine years of
their trust, are
to settle the
manors and
estates on
testator's heirs.
Conditional
limitation of
term of trust,
if testator
himself settles
endowment of
chantry.
Testator's
trustees are,
without delay,
to settle on
testator's
eldest son the
manors and
estates which
are assigned
to him.

Testator's
trustees, out
of the revenues
of the manors
and estates
not so settled
on the eldest
son, are to pay,
as a first
charge £20
yearly for
testator's
chantry, pend-

Also, I beqweth to the toder iij. orders of freris in Oxenford
to ich of them C's. to pray specially for the sowles of me and my
wiff and oure said Auncesters.

Also, to the Abbot and conuent of Breuer xli.

Also, to Anne Ogard, my daughter's daughter, to her mariage 5
if she be married worshipfully and to such as is or shal be a lorde
of name CC li., of the same Issuez & profutez.

And I wol that he that so shal receyve the Issuez and pro-
futez of the said Manoirs landis and tenementes yerely accompt
of them afore such Auditours as shal be assigned by my wiff 10
Executours and feoffes or the more parte of them.

Also, I wol that anon after the said ix yere after my decesse
determined that my said feoffies make astate of all the seyde
Manoirs landis and tenementz with thappurtenaunce to my next
heire and to the heires of his body lawfully begoten, And for 15
lakke of such Issue the remander therof to my right heires.

And in case that the said Chauntry be founded in my lyff
than I wolke that after the terme of vj yere next after my decesse
determined that my said feoffes of all the said Manoirs landis
and tenementes make astate vnto my next heire to haue and 20
hold to him and to the heires of his body begeten And for lakke
of such Issue the remaynder therof to my right heires.

Also, I wol that my feoffes in and of all my other manoyrs
landis and tenementes that thei be enfeoffed in to myn vse &
profuet (except thoo Maners landis and tenementes appoynted 25
to william Robert and henry my sonnes and my maners landys
and tenementz in Oxenford shire) anon after my decesse make
astate vnto my next heire¹ and to the heires of his body begeten
And for lakke of suche Issev the Remaynder therof to my right
heires. 30

Also, I wol that my feoffes * of all my other Manoirs Landis
and tenementis in the shire of Oxford, except afore except, after
my decesse, of the Issuez and profutes of the same, paie xx li.
yerly to the susteyning of my said Chauntrye and anniuersarie
vnto the tyme my said Chauntry be full stabulischid and 35
fownded, and suffir my next heires to haue the Issuez and pro-

* If. 23.

baron) to Parliament, 9 Oct. 1459

¹ John Lovel, summoned (as a to 28 Febr. 1463).

fute³ of all the same Manoiers landis and tenementis ouer that
xx li. ing its per-
manent
endowment.

And after the said Chauntery stabulisched and founded of
xx li. of lyvelode, I wol my feoffies of the said Manoiers landis
5 and tenementes in the said shire of Oxford, Except afore except,
make astate to my next heire and to the heires of his body
begoten, and for lakke of suche Issue the remaynder therof to
my right heires. Thereafter,
those estates,
which have
hitherto been
held in trust,
are to be
settled, by
testator's
trustees, on
testator's
heirs.

Also, I wol that my goodis moveable and vnmoveable be dis-
10 posed, after the good discrestion of my good executors, by the
ouersight and sourvoue of my wyff.

Also, I charge all my sonnes, vpon my blessing and as thei
wol answer to god, that thei be helpyng and assistyng to myn
Executours to the executyng and performyng of this my testa-
15 ment and laste wille.

And Executours of this my testament I make Thomas Bylling, Executors
named, testa-
tor's wife to
be overseer of
the will.
sergeaunt of the lawe¹; lucas laucok, Clerk; william Marmeon;
William Brawnston.

Also, I wol that my Wiff, in whom I put my moste speciall
20 faith & truste, be surveour of this my testament, prayng and
requiring her that she wol do her trewe diligens and parte that
my said testament may be trewly performed, accordyng to myn
entent; And require and charge my executours that noon of
hem do any grete thing touching the execucion of my said
25 testament, withoute thei aske auyse of her before.

In wittenesse wherof, to this present writyng I haue putto
my seale, yeven the xvij. day of Marche the yere of oure lord
Mⁱ CCCC liiij. And the yere of the Regne of king henry the sext
after the conquest² xxxiiij^{ti}. 18 March,
33 Hen. VI
(1454/5).

[II. Full Text of First Codicil.]

30 **I**n the name of god amen I, William lord lovell Burnell and
of holand, hoole of mynde, the v day of Iunn the yere of
oure lord god Mⁱ cccc lv^{ti}, And the yere of the Regne of king
herry the sext after the conquest xxxiiij^{ti}, declare my last wille
and aduyse conteyned in my testament beryng date of the xvij. 5 June,
33 Hen. VI
(1455), testator
adds to his
will (as above)
a codicil, by
which his
trustees of

¹ Afterwards Sir Thomas Billing, in 1469 Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

² = the year . . . three and thirti.

his unentailed
manors and
estates are

day of Marche the yere of oure lord god Mⁱ CCCC liii^{ti} and the
Regne of oure souerayne lord the kyng xxxiiij^{ti}, And also adde
to the same testament in Maner and forme as in this codicille
foloweth.

first, that where I, in the said testament and last wille, 5
ordeyned disposed and willed that my feoffes in and of all my
Maners landis and tenementz with theire appur-
tenaunces in ¹ Acton Burnell, Wotton, Croston, Sutton, holgote, Abbeton, Millyngchamp, Ewdon
Burnell, acton Raynard, longedon, Vppyingdon, Rowton, Am- 10
baston, Chatwall, wolstauton, Smethcote, Russhbury, hope-
bowdeler, and Condouer, with theire membris, in the shire of
Salop and in all my landis and tenementz in Nantewich in the
shire of Chestir not appoynted to my soon herry, shuld occupie
and haue all my said Manoiers landis and tenementis with 15
thappurtenaunce after my decesse by the terme of ix yere to
perfourme my said wille and testament, as it is in the same
testament expressed, I wol that my said feoffees occupie and
haue all my said landis Manoiers and tenementis with thappur-
tenaunces after my decesse by the terme of xij. yeere then next 20
and continuall folowyng, to execute and performe with the
Isseues and profutes therof my said testament And that my last
wille, vnder forme as in the said testament is and in this my
codicille shall be declared;

(a) empowered
to hold these
for a term of
3 years beyond
the 9 years
allowed in
the will;

(b) charged to
see that the
endowment of
£20 yearly for
testator's two-
priest chantry
is strictly net,
and clear of
all charges,
now or in
future,
and out of it
there shall be
paid yearly
(a) to the two
chantry-
priests, each
£6 13s. 4d.;
(b) to Grey-
friars Con-
vent, Oxford,
£6 13s. 4d.,
for the upkeep
of the chantry
chapel,

Also, where I, in my said testament, haue appoynted xx li. 25
of lyvelod to be purchased with the said Issues and profutes, to
be amorteysed for ij. seculer prestes to sing perpetuelly for the
sowles of me my wiff and my Auncestres, I, in this my codicille,
wol and declare that the said purchase and mortisment be so
and in suche fourme had that hit be xx li. clere aboue all maner 30
of Chargis, and suche lyflod as shal be of no lesse clere yerly
valu be lyklyhode hereafterwarde: of the which xx li. I wol
that my said ij. prestis haue yerly xx marces.² And I wol that
the Wardeyn and the Covent of the gray frerys of Oxford haue
yeerly the residewe³ of the said xx li. therwith to kepe my 35
yeerly obite & to reparell *my said Chapell after tyme it is
sufficiently beelidid and performed

* If. 23 bk.

¹ Note 1, p. 73.

² i. e. 10 marcs (£6 13s. 4d.) each.

³ = £6 13s. 4d.

Codicillus
dicti domini.

And pay yeerly to the Chaunceler of Oxford for the tyme and payments on obit-day to the dignitaries of the University and Burgh of Oxford, if they attended. beyng and Ofering at my said Obite, vj s. viij d., To his commissary so Offeryng in his absence, iij s. iiij d., and to eyther of the proctours of the vniuersite commyng with the said Chaunceler or his commissary and offeryng at my said obite, xx d.

And to the Maire of Oxford for the tyme beyng iij s. iiij d. and to either of the Bayles xx d., in case be that thei come and offre at my said yeerly obite.

Also I wol that my said executurs & feoffes, ouer Trustees are to provide for the Lovel chantry-chapel, over and above its fixed yearly endowment, the Service-books, Communion-plate, Vestments, Ornaments, Communion-elements, lights, required by it. the said xx li., purvey bokes, Chaleys, and vestimentes, with other ornamentes necessary to the said Chapell; and also for bred, vyne, and wex for all maner of prestis that wol say masse in the said Chapell for euer-more.

Also, I wol that the said ij. prestis be seculers, bachelers of Testator's two chantry-priests are to be seculers, graduates, and preachers. diuinite or at the leste maisters of Arte, vertuose and wel disposed to lerne and for to procede in degree,¹ And moreover to preche the worde of God in releeff of simple curatis and edificacion of cristen sowles

And thei, in their open sermons, shall pray specially by name for the sowles of me, my Wiff and myn Aunceters. Outline of their duties in respect of (a) their bidding-prayer before their sermons: (b) their duties on Sundays and Festivals:

And I wol that the sayd ij. preestis euery sonday and doble fest, after tyme the said Chapell is beeldide and fully perfourmed, at vj. of the belle in the mornyng begynne the matyns of the (c) their intercessory services on Week-days. day in my said Chapell; and, after Matyns said, oon of them incontynently say masse of the day, onlesse thanne they be absent preching the worde of god; And if bothe be not so absent, than he, that is not so occupied, say the sayd matyns and masse

and onys in the Weeke day say² Placebo and Dirige with a Masse of Requiem for the sowles of me, my Wyf and myn Auncestres and of all Cristen sowles.

Also I woll that the lord lovell for the tyme beyng name and present the said ij. prestis (so that thei be seculers and bachelers of diuinite or at the lest Maisters of Art) to the Chaunceler of Oxonford for the tyme beyng; And the said Chaunceler, in case he fynde hem by dew examinacion vertuose and of gode conuersacion and disposed to procede after my wyl before declared, The appointment of the priests is to rest with baron Lovel, subject to approbation by the Chancellor of Oxford.

¹ I. e. desirous to take the higher degree of D.D.

² See in John Denham's will, 1526.

admitte theym to syng in my said Chapell after forme above by me rehersed ; And yf by such examinacion or otherwise, the said ij. bachelers of diuinite or maisters of Arte, so named and presented by the lord lovell for the tyme beyng, be not fownde of suche condicions and vertu as it is in my wille before 5 declared, that then thei be in no wyse admitted to syng in the said Chapell ; but then, after notice had therof, the said lord Lovell name and present ij. other in semblable wise to be examined admitted or refused. Wherin I pray and straitly require and (also moche as in me is) I charge the said lord 10 lovell and Chaunceler that thei, in namyng, presentyng, examyning, and admittyng the said ij. prestis, put aparte all maner of affectuouse percialite, favour, seruice, or reward.

Conditions under which one or both of these two priests may be removed from the chantry.

Also, I wol and declare that in case the said ij. prestis, or eyther of them, be promoted to eny benefice, college, Chauntre, 15 or other Office of perpetuete, otherellus be of viciouse gouernaunce or vncleue lyvyng befor the Chaunceler lawfully conuicted, that then theire places in my said Chapell, and either of them, so promoted or conuicted, be voyde, and the said lord lovell name and present other, in maner and fourme above 20 rehersed.

A personal bequest to testator's son, William Lovell.

Item, I woll and beqweth, in this my Codicill, to William my sonne a Bedd of Bawdekyn with qwischens and thapparrell thereto, payng x li.

Duration of the trust established in the will is extended from 9 years to 12 years.

Also that, where I wyllled and ordeyned in my said testament 25 that, anon after ix yeere after my decesse determined, that my feoffes shuld make astate of all the said Manoiers landis and tenementes, with ther appurtenauncz, vnder forme in my said testament conteyned, I wol that my said feoffes be not charged nor in noo wyse constrayned to make any astate vnto the terme 30 of xij. yeere after * my decesse fully determyned

Gratuities to testator's servants.

Also, I woll and adde to my said testament in this my Codicille that my seruauntes be rewarded vnder forme and sommes that folowen :

ffirst, to Thomas lesseller and to his wiff, c s. ;

35

to henry Normanvyle, lxxvj s. viij d. ;

To thomas Stotesbury, xl s. ;

to John Gyfford, lxxvj s. viij d. ;

* lf. 24.

to Drew Streighley, lxxvj s. viij d. ;
 to Bernard Delamere, lxxvj s. viij d. ;
 to Thomas Conyers, lxxvj s. viij d. ;
 to Thomas Ingelfeld, iiij li. xiiij s. iiij d. ;

5 Also, to Mawt Denham, of fee, so longe as she is soole, yeerly,
 x. marces; And, if she be worshipfully and wel married, to her
 mariage, xiiij li. vj s. viij d.

Also Sybill fowler, whanne tyme she shall be married and
 worshipfully, xx li. to her mariage ;

10 Also, to the *seruauntes* of John Densell, liij s. iiij d. ;

Also, to Thomas Aunger, xls. ;

to Iohn of Chambre, xl s. ;

to Iohn Appynton, xl s. ;

to Thomas Clerk, liij s. iiij d. ;

15 to William Aleyn, xl s. ;

to Iohn Aden, liij s. iiij d., of fee ;

to Iohn Benet, xls. of fee ;

to Richard Whitfeld, xl s. ;

to Iohn Church, xxxiiij s. iiij d. ;

20 to William Wynfray, xl s. ;

to Wylliam Skynner, xls. ;

to William Grendon, xl s. ;

to Thomas Ormeston, xx s. ;

To Thomas Smyth, xls. ;

25 to Thomas Selby, liij s. iiij d. ;

to William Blakbourne, liij s. iiij d. ;

To Thomas Selman, xl s. ;

to Edmund Blakhall, liij s. iiij d. ;

To Iohn Russell, liij s. iiij d., of fee ;

30 to Iohn Barby, xxxj s. viij d. ;

To Thomas hunt, xx s., of fee ;

to Richard Milton, xl s. ;

to William Trumpet, xl s., of fee ;

to Geffray taylour, xl s. ;

35 to Iohn Woderoff, xxxj s. viij d. ;

to Iohn Cransley, xl s. ;

to Iohn Whighill, xl s., of fee ;

to henry yoxhall, liij s. iiij d. ;

to Iohn Donner, xxvj s. viij d. ;

to Iohn Gylford, liij s. iiij d., in hool fee ;
 to Rauf herrys, for keypyng of a wode at Mynster lovell,
 xxvj s. viij d., of fee ;

to the Baily of mynster lovell, xl s. ;

To Rauff, Gardyner of Mynster lovell, xl s. of fee yeerly, for 5
 keypyng of the Gardeyn theere, yeerly receyvyng and keypyng the
 frutes therof to the behoof of the houshold theere ;

To william kollyng, xx s., of fee ;

to ffrank Martyn, xxxiiij s. iiij d. ;

to Iohn Morayn, xxvj s. viij d. 10

to Iohn Culneham, xxvj s. viij d. ;

to Iohn Grene, xxvj s. viij d. ;

to Deryk of the kechyn, xx s. ;

to Richard of the Bakhouse, xxvj s. viij d. ;

To Edmund of the Bakhouse, xxvj s. viij d. ; 15

To Iohn Skirs of the same, xxvj s. viij d. ;

to Iohn Carter, xx s. ;

to Iohn lane, xxvj s. viij d. ;

to Thomas Blakhalle, xxxiiij s. iiij d. ;

to henry Gaddesby, xxvj s. viij d. ; 20

To William Broyn, xxvj s. viij d. ;

To Thomas of the Stable, xxvj s. viij d.

Appeal by
 testator to his
 family to have
 this will duly
 carried out.

And I eftesones require my wiff, sonnes, & heires, in the way
 of Charite, and for the love of all-mychty god and in Eschewyng
 of dampnacion of theire sowles, that thei help and Assiste, with 25
 all suche power as god hath yeven them, my feoffes and myn
 Executours to execute my said testament & this my wylle, And
 that thei in no wise lett hit nor do for to be letted by no maner
 of meane nor colour.

Previous
 trustees dis-
 charged, and
 new trustees
 appointed
 (viz. the Arch-
 bishop of
 Canterbury
 and others).
 Witnesses,
 Thomas Gas-
 coigne, D.D.,
 and six others.

Item, I wol that all my elther feoffes, if ther any bee in my 30
 said maners, landis, and tenementes, make a relese vnto Thomas,
 Archiebisschop of Canterbury,¹ and vnto his cofeoffies to per-
 fourme my said testament and wille.

Beryng wittenesse herof: Maister Thomas Gascoyne,² doctor
 of diuinite ; Bartholomew Ardern, Thomas Sakvyle, Iohn 35
 Grayby, Esquyers ; William Barneville, Iohn Adeen, and Iohn
 Russell, with other mo.

¹ Thomas Bouchier, translated from Ely 1454 ; died 1486.]

² Thomas Gascoigne, D.D., 1434.

. [III. Text of Second Codicil.]

To all trew Cristen people that this present wryting tri-
partited endedd shall heere or see, William
Vltima voluntas lord lovell Burnell and of holand, send
dicti defuncti. gretying in oure lord everlastyng.

5 Where that I, the same William lord lovell, amonges other, Appointment of a new body of trustees over many of testator's estates, viz.
haue enfeofed, vppon grete faith and truste, the right reuerend
faders in god Thomas Bourchiere, Archiebischop of Canterbury,
primat of all England; William,¹ Bisshop of Wynchestre;
William lacy, * William Catesby, knyghtes; Robert Danuers²
10 (oon of the Iustice of the common place), and other

in and of my Manoiers³ of Bridelhurst, obdon, knoke, Erdes- **First:**
cote, Estwamburgh, with thappurtenaunce, in the shire of 5 manors in Wiltshire;
Wyltshire and in all my other landis and tenementes in the
same townes;

15 the Maner of Berley⁴ with thappurtenaunce in the shire of 1 manor in Hertfordshire;
hertford;

the maner of Est wycham,⁵ with thappurtenaunce, in the 1 manor in Kent;
shire of kent;

And Rotherhith, with thappurtenaunce, in the shire of Surre; 1 estate in Surrey;
20 the Maner of Wodford,⁶ with thappurtenaunce, in the shire 1 manor in Gloucester-shire;
of Gloucestre;

and in all my landis & tenementis in Bampton, litell Mynster,⁷
and elles where in the shire of Oxford, with thappurtenaunce,
the which were sumtyme Alyenor hill;

25 and of a fee ferme of vij li. vjs. viij d. in the shire of Wyrcestre 1 rent-charge in Worcester-shire;
that the Priour of Wyrcestre payde to me for Trympley⁸;

the maners⁹ of Stene, hynton, Polebroke, with thappurten- **Second:**
aunce, in the Shire of Northampton; 8 manors in Northampton-shire;

* If. 24 bk.

in Ansty par., Dunworth hundred.

¹ William of Waynflete, appointed 1447, died 1486.

⁴ Barley, near Royston.

² Robert Danvers, Justice of the Common Pleas, 1450.

⁵ East Wickham, near Woolwich.

⁶ Widford.

⁷ = Lovell Minster, or Minster Lovell.

³ Upton Lovell, Knook, East Wanborough are found on the map. Erdeskote is Hurdecote in Dunworth hundred, in which the Lovel family owned scattered properties. Bridelhurst (or Brideshurst) is Bridzor

⁸ Trympley was a chantry in Kidderminster church (*Valor*, iii. 275).

⁹ Steen, Hinton-in-the-Hedges, Polebrook.

1 manor in
Buckingham-
shire ;

property in
Banbury,
Oxfordshire.

Third :

2 manors in
Shropshire ;

2 manors in
Warwickshire ;

1 half-manor
in Wolver-
hampton,
co. Staffs. ;
estates in
Cheshire,

in trust.

First :
to settle (in
strictest
entail) the
manors in
Wiltshire,
Hertfordshire,
Kent, and
Gloucester-
shire, with
the estates in
Surrey and
Oxfordshire,
and the rent-
charge in Wor-
cestershire,
on testator's
second son,
William Lovel,
and his heirs
male,

the Maner of Crawley¹ with thappurtenaunce in the Shire
of Buckes ;

with all my other landis and tenementes in the same townes ;
and in the Towne of Banebury in the shire of Oxonford ;

the maners of² welyngton and Pycheford, with thappurten- 5
aunce, in the Shire of Salop ;

the Maners³ of Bidford and Brome with thappurtenaunce in
the Shire of warrwick ; The Moyte of my lordship of woluer-
hampton, with thappurtenaunce, in the shire of Stafford, with
all my other landis & tenementis in the same townes ; 10

and in all my landes & tenementes Rentis and seruice with
thappurtenaunce in Nauntwyche and ellus where in the shire
of Chestre, late William Brownynge,

to haue and to hold to them and to theire heires for euermore.

I, the said william lord louell, declare my wille and entent 15
of the said feoffament in maner and fourme folowyng :

That is to say, that my said feoffies anon after my decesse
make astate in and of the said maners of Brideshurst, Vbbedon,
knoke, Erdescote, Est wamburgh, Berley, Estwykham, Rother-
hith, Wydeford, fee-ferme, and in all the said other landis or 20
tenementis in the same townes, in all the said landis & tene-
mentis in Bampton, litell minster, and ellus where in the shire of
Oxford that were sumtyme Alianore hill, with all thappurten-
aunce, to william my secunde sone and to the heires males of
his body laufully begoten, vnder the forme and condicions 25
folowyng, that if the same william my sone or eny of the
heires males of his body begeten do or suffre any thing to be
doo by the whiche the said taile shuld be discontinued and
discontinued, in parte or in all, lenger or otherwise than for
terme of the liff of the same william my sone or of the lyff of 30
any of his heires males of his body begeten or duryng the lyff
of any of the wyffes of my said sone or of any of the wiffes of
the heires males of his body begeten, that thanne all the said
maners of Brideshurst, Vbbedon, knoke, Erdescote, Est wam-
burgh, Berley, Est wykham, Rotherhith, Wydeford, fee-ferme, 35
with all the said other landis and tenementes in the same

¹ North Crawley, near Newport
Pagnell.

² Wellington and Pitchford.

³ Bidford and Broom in Bidford
parish.

townes, and in the townes of Bampton and litell mynster and ells where, specified in the said taylor, Remayne vnto the right heires; and the said astate taylord vnto to be voyde;

And I pray and require my said feoffes to be helpyng and
5 assisting to my right heires in this behalff;

And in case the said william my sone die withoute Issew with
male of his body begeten, orellus that he or any of his said
heires males (for lakke of other Issew of me) inherite me and be
lord louell, and no such discontynuaunce made by him nor noon
10 of his said heires males other wyse thanne is afore rehersed,
that thanne the oon half of the same manoirs landis tenementes
and fee ferme, with thappurtenaunce, remayne vnto Robert
louell, my third sonne, and to the heires males of his body
begeten, vnder sembelable forme and condicions to be obserued
15 and kept by the same Robert and his said heires males as is
afore rehersed to be obserued and kept by the said william and
his heires * males of his body begeten. And in case the
saide Robert die withoute issue male; of his body begeten, or
ellus that he or any of his said issue male; inherite me and be
20 lord louell, and no discontynuaunce be made be the same Robert
nor noon of heires males of his body begeten, of the said
halfendell nor of no parcell theroff otherwyse thanne is afore
rehersed, that thenne the said halfendell remayne to henry
louell my fourthe sonne and to the heires males of his body
25 begeten, vnder semblable fourme and condicions to be obserued
and kept by the same henry and his heires males (as is
afore rehersed) to be obserued and kept by the said william &
his heires males of his body begetyn; And for lacke of suche
issue male of the said henry, the remaynder therof vnto my
30 right heires, And that the oder half of the said Maners landis
and tenementes with thappurtenaunce remayne vnto the same
henry and to the heires males of his body begeten, vnder
sembleable fourme and condicions to be obserued and kept by
him and his said heires males (as is afore rehersed), to be
35 obserued and kept by the said william and his heires males of
his body begeten; And in case the said henry die withoute issue
male of his body begeten, the remaynder therof vnto the same
Robert and to the heires males of his body begeten vnder

contingent remainders, (as specified in this Codicil), in case of failure of heirs male or of succession to the barony and the baronial estates, to testator's third son Robert Lovel, and heirs male,

and, beyond them, to testator's fourth son Henry Lovel;

and, if entail fails, to testator's heirs-at-law.

* If. 25.

semblable forme & condicions as is afore rehersed; And for lacke of suche issew male of the said Robert, the remaynder therof vnto my right heires.

Second,
to settle (in
strictest
entail), the
3 manors in
Northampton-
shire, with the
manor in
Buckingham-
shire, and the
property in
Banbury,
Oxfordshire,
on testator's
third son
Robert Lovel
and heirs male,

with
contingent
remainders to
testator's
heirs-at-law

Also I pray and require my said feoffes that thei, anon after my decesse, make astate vnto the said Robert my sone in and 5 of the said Maners of Stene, hynton, Pokebred, Crawley, with all theire other landis and tenementes in the same townes, & in the Towne of Banbury, with thappurtenaunce, to haue & to holde to him and to the heires males of his body begeten, vnder the fourme and condicions folowyng;—that if the same Robert or 10 any of the heires males of his body begeten do or suffre any thing to be do by the which the same taile shuld be discontyneued and discontyneued, in parte or in all, lenger or other wyse thanne for terme of lyue of the same Robert or terme of the liffe of any of his heires males of his body begeten or for 15 terme of the liff of any of the wyffes of the said Robert or terme of lyve of any of the wyffes of the heires males of the said Robert body begeten, that thanne all the same Maners landis & tenementes remayne to my right heires and the said astate vtterly to be voyde.

20

And I pray and require my said feoffes to be helpyng and assistyng to my right heires in this behalff.

or testator's
son William
Lovel,

And in case the said Robert dye withoute issue male of his body begeten that thanne the oon halff of the same maners, landis, & tenementis, with thappurtenaunce, So yiffen to the 25 said Robert, shall remayne to the same william my soon and to the heires males of his body lawfully begeten, vnder semblable forme and condicions as is afore rehersed to be obserued and kept by the same william and his said heires males, And if the said william die withoute Issue male of his body begeten or ellus 30 that he or any of his said issue male inherite me and be lord louell and no discontynuaunce be made be him nor noon of his said heires males of the said halfendell nor of no parte theroff otherwise thanne is afore rehersed, that thanne the said halfendell with thappurtenaunce shall remayne to the same henry and to 35 the heires males of his body begeten vnder semblable fourme and condicions as is afore rehersed; and, for lacke of suche issue, the remaynder theroff, to my right heires; and that the oder halff of the said Maners landis & tenementes with thappur-

and, after-
wards, to
testator's son
Henry Lovel
and heirs male,

tenaunce shall remayne to the same henry and to the heires males of his body begeten vnder semblable fourme and condicions as is afore rehersed. And in case the said henry die withoute suche issue of his body begeten the remaynder therof to the
 5 same william and to the heires males of his * body begeten, with ultimate reversion to heirs-at-law.
 Vnder semblable forme and condicions as is afore rehersed;
 And for lacke of suche issue of the said William, the remainder therof to my right heires.

Also I pray and require my said feoffes that thei anon after
 10 my deceasse make astate vnto the same henry my sone in and of the said maners of wyllington, Picheford, Bidford, Brome, and moyte of the lordship of Woluerhampton and of all other landis and tenementis in the same townes and in all landis and tenementis Rentis and fermes in Nantwich and ellus where in the
 15 shire of Chester late William Brownynges with thappurtenaunce to haue and to holde to the same herry & to the heires males of his body begeten, vnder forme & condicions folowyng: that if the same henry or any of the heires males of his body begeten do or suffre any thing to be doo by the which the same
 20 taile shuld be discontyneued and discontynued, in parte or in all, lenger or otherwyse thanne for terme of liff of the same henry or terme of the liff of any of his heires males of his body begeten or for terme of the liff of the wiffes of the said henry or terme of the lyff of any of the wyffes of the heires
 25 males of his body begeten, that thenne all the said Maners landis and tenementes remayne to my right heires, And the said astate vtterly to be voyde. And I pray & require my said feoffes to be helpyng and assistyng to my right heires in this behalf. And in case the said henry dye withoute Issew male of his body
 30 begeten, that thanne the oon half therof remayn to the same william my sone and to the heires males of his body begeten, vnder semblable forme and condicions as is afore rehersed, And if case the said william dye withoute Issew male of his body begeten, or ellus that he or any of his said Issue male enherite
 35 me and be lord louell and no discontinuance be made by him nor noon of his said heires males of the said halffendell, nor of no parte therof, otherwise thanne is afore rehersed, that thanne the said halffendell with thappurtenaunce shall remayne to the

Third,
 to settle (in strictest entail) the 2 Shropshire manors, the 2 Warwickshire manors, the half-manor in Staffordshire, and the estates in Cheshire, on testator's fourth son Henry and heirs male,

with remainder to heirs-at-law,

or to testator's son William,

or to testator's
son Robert,

or (finally) to
heirs-at-law.

same Robert my sone and to the heires males of his body
begeten, vnder semblable forme & condicions as is afore rehersed,
and for lack of such issue of the said Robert the remaynder
therof to my right heires. And that the other halff of the said
Maners Moite landis tenementis Rentis and seruicez with thap- 5
purtenaunce so giffen to the said henry shal remayne to the
said Robert and to the heires males of his body begeten, vnder
sembleable forme & condicions as is afore rehersed And for
lacke of such issue of the said Robert the remaynder therof to
the said william my sone and to the heires males of his body 10
begeten vnder semblable fourme & condicions as is afore rehersed,
and, for lacke of suche issue of the said william, the remayndre
therof to my right heires.

Sealed with
testator's
armorial seal.

In wittenesse I haue setto my seale of myn Armes.
Wittenesse &c.
datum &c.

15

[IV. *Official Record of Probate.*]

Proved,
1 September,
1455,
before John
Chedworth,
bishop of
Lincoln,

Primo die Septembris, Anno domini Millesimo quadringen-
tesimo quinquagesimo quinto, infra Manerium de Bukden,
lincolniensis diocesis, Coram Reuerendo in christo patre ac
domino, domino Iohanne, dei gracia lincolniensi Episcopo, 20
personaliter comparuerunt Magister lucas lancok, decretorum

Actum probacionis
dictorum testamenti
& codicillorum.

doctor, willhelmus Marmyon, armiger,
et willhelmus Braunston, domicellus,
executores (vt asseruerunt) Nobilis
memorie domini willhelmi, domini de 25

who (although
deceased's
estate was not
wholly in Lin-
coln diocese,
but partly in
other dioceses
of the province
of Canterbury),
was, by an old
agreement
between the
Archbishop
and the
Diocesan as to
probate of
wills of per-
sons dying in
the diocese of
Lincoln,
entitled to
admit this

louell, Burnell, & holand, dicti Reuerendi patris (vt asseritur)
parochiani defuncti, et tempore mortis sue eciam vt asseritur
nonnulla bona in diocesi lincolniensi et alijs diuersis diocesibus
Cantuariensis prouincie obtinentis, et ibidem quoddam testa-
mentum vna cum duobus Codicillis ipsius defuncti vltimam 30
voluntatem in se continentibus exhibuerunt, Vnde idem Reue-
rendus in christo pater ipsa testamentum et codicillos: publi-
cavit, probauit, eaque (ratione composicionis inter Ecclesias
Cantuariensem & lincolniensem super approbacione testamen-
torum parochianorum infra diocesim lincolniensem decedencium 35
inite, ac iure et prerogatiua ecclesie sue lincolniensis laudabili,
legitimeque prescripta consuetudine, ac lege speciali legitime

prescripta, per tempusque, vt idem Reuerendus pater eciam
 asseruit, cuius contrarij memoria non existat, seu existit, vsitata
 & obseruata) approbavit, insinuauit, ac pro vero valore eorum-
 dem pronunciauit per decretum, Administracionemque omnium
 5 bonorum, dictum defunctum et eius testamentum concernencium,
 et infra iurisdiccione[m] lincolniensem existencium, ac ad ipsum
 Reuerendum patrem de iure, prerogatiua, consuetudine laudabili
 prescripta, ac lege speciali predictis pertinencium, eisdem Magistro
 luce, willhelmo, et willhelmo, predictis executoribus in ipso testa-
 10 mento nominatis, [et eos] in forma iuris de obseruando capitula
 subscripta, tactis per eosdem sacrosanctis dei euangelis, iurare
 fecit: et iurarunt, videlicet, quod nullus ipsorum executorum
 bona ipsius defuncti, quocunque nomine censerentur, ab alijs
 coexecutoribus suis celabit, sed illa omnino ceteris coexecutoribus
 15 reuelabit, & ad noticiam eorum perferet, nec preter eorum con-
 sensum administrabit, donabit, alienabit, seu disponet, atque
 nullus ipsorum alicui pro aliquibus receptis seu recipiendis de
 bonis debitis seu arreragijs ipsius defuncti, acquietancias, libera-
 ciones, perdonaciones, * relaxaciones, seu remisiones, sine con-
 20 sensu et voluntate aliorum executorum, faciet quouismodo, vnde
 idem Reuerendus pater eisdem administracionem commisit.

will to pro-
 bate, approved
 the will, and,
 with full force
 of law,
 committed
 administration
 of it to the
 executors
 named in it,
 when they
 had taken the
 oath required
 of executors,

viz :
 that no one of
 them would do
 any act, of any
 kind, without
 leave of his
 co-executors.

Acta fuerunt hec in loco, anno, & die predictis: Indiccione Calixtus III
 3 tercia, pontificatus sanctissimi in christo patris et domini nostri, was then Pope.
 domini Calisti, diuina prouidencia pape tercij, anno primo.
 25 Presentibus tunc ibidem Magistro Ricardo Ewan (in Artibus Witnesses an
 Magistro), willhelmo hornby, & willhelmo Barford, Saris- M.A. and
 buriensis & lincolniensis diocesium, &c. others.

IX: Vow of celibacy, 1456, taken by Joan Stretton,
 widow, before John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln,
 then celebrating Mass in Merton College Chapel,
 Oxford.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 20 bk.

Vii^{jo} kalendas Iulij, in festo videlicet Natiuitatis sancti 24 June, 1456,
 Iohannis Baptiste, Anno domini Millesimo CCCC lvj^{to}, in Capella in Merton
 30 infra Martyn college Oxonie situata, Reuerendus in christo College Chapel,
 pater et dominus, dominus Iohannes, dei gracia lincolniensis Oxford, before
 the Lord
 Bishop of Lin-
 coln at Mass,

Episcopus, in pontificalibus indutus, votum per¹ dictum Reuerendum patrem intra missarum solempnia admisit et recepit in hac forma.

Joan Stretton, widow, of Lincoln Diocese, publicly made this vow, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and attested the record of it by attaching her cross (+) or mark to it.

I, Iohan Stretton of lincoln diocesse, not wedded, promitte and avowe to god and to oure lady and to 5
Votum Iohanne all the saintis of hevyn, in youre presence,
stretton vidue Reuerend fadre in god, Iohn, by the grace of
emissum. god Bissshop of lincoln, the purpose of Chastite
 aftir the rewle of Saint Paule, and with myn owne hand I
 subscribe here my self—In nomine patris & filij & spiritus 10
 sancti Amen ✠ et cetera benedictionum insignia in hac parte
 requisita, fecit, et exercuit, coram populi multitudine inibi
 congregata, &c.

X: Will, 1456, and Codicil, of Gervase Rudd, of Stamford, Lincolnshire.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, ff. 70, and 70 bk.

[*I. Latin Text of Will.*]

16 November, 1456.

* **I**n Dei Nomine Amen. Sextodecimo die Nouembris Anno domini Millesimo CCCC lvj^{to}, Ego, Geruasius Rudde de Stam- 15
 ford, videns michi mortis periculum imminere²,

Testamentum condo testamentum meum in hunc modum.

Geruasij In primis, lego animam meam deo omnipo-
Rudde de tenti, beate Marie matri eius, et omnibus
Stamford. sanctis; Corpusque meum ad sepeliendum in 20

Ecclesia sancti Martini ville Stamford predicte.

Item, lego optimum meum indumentum pro mortuario meo, prout mos est ibidem; Item, ffabrice ecclesie predicte, pro sepultura mea, vjs. viij d.

Item, ordini ffratrum Carmelitarum, ijs. vj d.; Item, ordini 25
 predicatorum eiusdem ville, ijs. vj d.

Item, ffabrice ecclesie sancti Georgij eiusdem ville, vnum quarterium ordeii.

* lf. 70.

¹ The grammar of this sentence is all wrong, but the meaning is plain.

The *anacolouthon* is quite Thueydean in its complexity.

² MS. has 'immunire'.

Burlal in St. Martin's church, Stamford. A mortuary assigned to that church.

Bequests to Friars Mendicant at Stamford.

Bequest to St. George's church, Stamford.

Residuum vero bonorum meorum non legatorum do et lego Executors named.
 Iohanne vxori mee et henrico Barton quos facio et constituo
 meos executores vt ipsi disponant pro salute anime mee prout
 eis videbitur melius deo placere.

- 5 Datum apud Stamford predictam die et anno supradictis;
 hijs testibus, Willhelmo Gyrdeler (Capellano), Iohanne Barker,
 et Waltero Cutteler.

[II. *English Text of Codicil.*]

This is the laste wille of me, Gervas Rudde of Stamford, 16 November, 35 Hen. VI (1456).
 made the xvj. day of Nouembre in the yere of the Regne of
 10 king henry the sext xxxv^{ti}, And in the yere of oure lord
 Mⁱ CCCClvj.

first, I woll that Ionet my wyff and henry Barton myn
 executours do perfourme my testament.

Item, I woll and giff to my said wyff my place that I dwell Testator's dwelling house in Stamford is charged with providing a yearly obit-day for the testator, and similar yearly commemoration for testator's two wives.
 15 in the terme of her lyff, and that she kepe yerly my yereday
 in honest fourme; and after her decesse, I wol that
 Vltima Robert my son haue it duryng his lyff & to his eyrys
 Voluntas of his body lafully begoten if he haue any, in the
 eiusdem. same fourme as it is beforesaid, and vnder the same
 20 condicion, and also the yereday of both my wyffes; And if he
 kepe hem not yerely ne in dew fourme than I woll that, by the
 sight of the said herry barton, the said place be solde and the
 money that commyth theroff to be disposed for the helth of my
 sowle and of the sowlys of my said ij. wyffes, And in the same
 25 wyse if the said Robert haue no Isew.

Also, I woll that herry Barton haue the termes of the place Testator bequeaths to Henry Barton the remainder of his lease.
 that I holde of Iohn Apethorp, after the tenure of my Indenture
 the wiche I delyuere vnto him the day of makyng of this
 presentz.

30 Item, I woll that Alice my doughter haue after the decesse
 of my wyff a brasse panne of xxiiij. galons. Bequests to testator's children and godchild.

Item, to Robert my son a nother panne xxiiij. [gallons]
 conteynyng; Item, to kateryn my doughter, a panne of vj. galons;

Item, to my doughter Agnes Bolt, a brasse potte of ij. galons;

35 Item, to my goddoughter Elizabet Bolt, a potte of a potyll.

And all the Residew of my goodis by me at this tyme not sett
 I gyff to Ionet my wyff terme of her lyff, she to pay my dettys,

and after her decesse thei to be solde and disposed for me and bothe my said wyffes : And Also, I woll that Ionet my wyff giff to the said herry Barton for his labour xx s. of mony.

Provision for
testator's
dirige service.

And also, I wol haue at my dirige, when I am passed the worlde, v. prestis, and thei to giff euery prest iiij d. And in all 5 otherwyse thei to do for the helth of my sowle, as shulde * be most plesure to all myghty Ihesu. Whom I dayly beseche of grace and mercy.

[III. *Latin Record of Probate.*]

In dei Nomine, Amen.

John Sybely,
Commissary of
bishop of Lin-
coln, in St.
Mary's church
at the Bridge,
Stamford,
29 November,
1456, approves
the will
and codicil,
but requires
executors
to send in
their account.

Nos, Iohannes Sybely, clericus, Reuerendi in christo patris 10
ac domini, domini Iohannis, dei gracia lincolniensis Episcopi, in
Archidiaconatibus lincolnie & Stowie Commissarius generalis,
presens testamentum, vna cum codicillo eidem annexo, coram
nobis exhibitum in ecclesia parochiali sancte
Approbacio Marie iuxta pontem ville Stamford penultimo die 15
eorundem. mensis Nouembris Anno domini Millesimo
CCCClvj^{to}, probamus approbamus et insinuamus. Administra-
cionem quoque omnium bonorum dicti testamenti et codicilli
contingentis committimus executoribus infrascriptis, onus ad-
ministracionis bonorum huiusmodi in se admittentibus, in forma 20
iuris iuratis, Compotum administracionis bonorum huiusmodi
nobis specialiter reseruantes.

In cuius rei testimonium sigillum Officij nostri presentibus
est appensum : datum die, loco, & Anno domini supradictis.

XI. Proceedings, 1457, against the brothers William and Richard Sparke, of Somersham, Huntingdonshire, Lollards, at the instance of John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln.

Extracted from bishop Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 12 bk. The records of the Ecclesiastical Court are, of course, in Latin, but inasmuch as the persons proceeded against were (p. 96) 'not lettered', the papers which specially concerned them were in English.

[I. *Articles exhibited against William and Richard Sparke.*]

† Hii sunt articuli et opiniones heretice publice tente per 25
Willhelmum Sparke et Ricardum Sparke fratrem eiusdem, de

* lf. 70 bk.

† lf. 12 bk.

Somersham lincolniensis diocesis, et per eosdem coram Reu-
rendo in christo patre et domino, Domino Iohanne, dei gracia
Lincolniensi Episcopo, publice recognite & confessate.

In primis, dicunt quod Cruces et ymagine in ecclesiis con- 1.
stitute venerari non debeant, nec coram eis oblaciones fieri
debeant, cum [non] sint nisi ligna vel lapides: Sed quod potius
homo extensis brachiis tanquam vera Crux & ymago dei debeat
ab homine venerari.

Item, quod non fierent peregrinationes ad loca vbi sanctorum 2.
10 corpora requiescunt, et quod expense in eisdem facte sunt super-
uacue, inutilesque labores.

Item, quod puer de parentibus baptizatis procreatus baptismo 3.
non egeat nec baptizari debeat, cum parentum baptismus ei
sufficiat.

15 Item, quod laici coniugati vel laborantes non tenentur ieiui- 4.
nare, cum christum huiusmodi ieiunia statuisset nullicubi
reperitur; Et quod constitutio ecclesie in ea parte edita tantum
ligat clericos & Religiosos.

Item, quod sepultura mortuorum in sacris locis defunctis non 5.
20 magis prodest quam si eorum cadauera in paludibus¹ forent
tumulata; Et quod huiusmodi sepulture solempnitas propter
presbyterorum auariciam erat primitus adinuenta: Et quod
melius foret huiusmodi expensa in pauperum elemosinas conuerti
debere quam quod cum eis presbyteri debeant impi[n]guari².

25 Item, quod sacerdos maiorem potestatem conficiendi corpus 6.
christi non habet quam stramen vel festuca conficere possit;
Sed quod post verba sacerdotis verus panis semper manet, et eo
longe peior atque deterior efficitur ille panis quo super eo huius-
modi incantacionis verba proferuntur.

30 Item, quod triginta panes huiusmodi pro Vno Venduntur 7.
obolo, Vbi tamen christus venditus erat pro triginta denariis;
Et quod huiusmodi fictione³ sacramentum propter auariciam
sacerdotum erat primitus adinuentum.

* Item, quod confessio facta vni fidei de secta eorum magis 8.
35 prodest saluti anime confitentis quam confessio facta sacerdoti.

* lf. 13.

² 'impinguari' = to be fattened,

¹ MS. has 'plaudibus'. Hunt-
ingdonshire borders on 'the Fens'.

i.e. enriched.

³ MS. has 'fictioni'.

9. Item, quod, cum deus scrutator sit cordium, et cunctorum cognitor secretorum, Oratio mentalis tantum prodest quantum vocalis, et quod oratio in campis & loco non sacro facta tantum prodest quantum si fieret in ecclesia.
10. Item, quod solus consensus inter virum & mulierem facit 5 matrimonium; et quod sufficit, absque aliqua alia solemnitate, ad effectum quod tanquam vir et vxor cohabitare possint: Et quod solemnitas per ecclesiam ordinata propter auariciam sacerdotum erat constituta.
11. Item, quod extrema vinctio animabus hominum minime proficit 10 ad salutem, sed quod humana corpora per huiusmodi linicionem, anglice Gresyng, sordidiora et deteriora sunt effecta.
12. Item, quod papa est antichristus, et sacerdotes sunt eius discipuli, & omnes ordinati sunt diaboli incarnati.
13. Item, quod quilibet homo dicitur ecclesia dei: adeo quod, si 15 quemquam illorum coram iudice ecclesiastico euocatum ad hanc questionem respondere contingeret *An in ecclesiam credis?* tute tunc respondere posset, quod sit per hoc intelligens quod in ecclesia credit quia [credit] in homine qui est templum dei.
14. Item, vterque eorum, vt premittitur, publice recognouit & 20 fatebatur quod, coram non paucis in eorum secta confederatis, eorum vterque super librum corporale prestitit iuramentum quod exactissimam faceret diligenciam quotquot ad hoc mouere possent eos ad eorum sectam semper inducere conarentur, Et quod nullus eorum sectam seu sequaces eiusdem nemini, nisi de eorum secta, 25 quoquo modo reuelaret, quoad sufficientes existere possent ad destruendum antichristum predictum et eius discipulos vniuersos; quodque in breui futurum esse putare se vterque publice fatebatur.

[*These Articles Englished.*]

List of heretical tenets publicly maintained by William Sparke and his brother Richard Sparke, of Somersham, in the diocese of Lincoln, and afterwards publicly acknowledged by them before John, lord bishop of Lincoln.

1. Crosses and Images set up in Churches ought not to be worshipped; and offerings ought not to be made at them, since they are only stocks and stones. A human being had better worship a man with arms stretched out cross-wise, since that is a true cross and image of God.

2. Pilgrimages ought not to be made to places where the bodies of saints rest. The expenditure incurred in such pilgrimages is wasted, and the toil undergone is profitless.

3. A child whose parents have been baptized has no need of baptism, and ought not to be baptized, since its parents' baptism is sufficient for it.

4. Laymen who are married or who are engaged in manual labour are not bound to fast. Christ is nowhere found to have instituted fastings of this sort. The Canonical Rule of the Church put forward in this respect is binding only on clerics and on inmates of convents.¹

5. To bury a corpse in consecrated ground does the soul of the dead person no more good than if the corpse had been thrust into a bog. The solemnities of funerals were invented to provide fees for money-loving priests. It would be better if funeral expenses went in alms to the poor than to enrich priests.

6. A priest has no more power to make 'the body of Christ' than the wheat-stalk has. After the words of consecration the bread remains only bread as before; and, in fact, is debased by having had such spell-words pronounced over it.

7. Thirty breads² of this sort are sold for one halfpenny, but Christ was sold for thirty pence. The sacrament after this fashion is therefore a figment devised to enrich priests.

8. Confession made to a believer of the Lollard sect is more soul-healing than confession made to a priest.

9. Inasmuch as God is the searcher of all hearts and the knower of all secrets, an unspoken prayer is just as good as a spoken prayer, and a prayer made in a field or other unconsecrated place is just as efficacious as if it were made in a church.

10. The sole requisite for a valid marriage is mutual consent between the man and the woman, and no other solemnity is needed to justify their living together as man and wife. The marriage-service was brought in solely to provide fees for priests.

11. Extreme unction does not benefit the soul of any man. The only result of this anointing ('greasing,' we call it in English) is to dirty and make vile the person's body.

12. The Pope is Antichrist; priests are the disciples of Antichrist. All persons in Holy Orders are incarnate devils.

13. Every human being is called 'the church of God'. Therefore, if any Lollard is brought before the judge of an ecclesiastical court and required to answer the question *Dost thou believe in the Church?* he may answer without scruple *I do*; since by his belief in the Church he states only that he believes in man, who is 'the temple of God'.

14. Each of the accused publicly admitted that, in a large meeting of Lollards, he had solemnly taken oath upon the Bible (i) that he would use his utmost diligence to bring into the Lollard sect as many as ever he could prevail upon, and (ii) that he would reveal to no outsider the existence of the sect or the names of its adherents until they were strong enough in numbers to destroy Antichrist and all Antichrist's disciples; and this (he at that time asserted) would soon be.

¹ i.e. who are severed from the cares and toils of ordinary life, by being unmarried and by doing no manual work.

² i.e. communion-wafers for the laity.

[Notes on the preceding Articles.]

1. That a man with outstretched arms is 'an image of God' seems to be a Lollard exposition of Gen. i. 27, 'God created man in his own image.'

A gift of money to a particular image, or to an altar dedicated to a particular saint in a church, was a recognized act of devotional charity. In many cases, a donor silently left a coin on the pedestal of the image or on the altar, just as nowadays a charitable visitor drops a coin into an alms-box in a church. At one time, it is on record that such offerings were of appreciable value. When Westminster Abbey, on 21 October, 1356, impropriated the rectory of Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, special covenant was made that 'all oblations in any wise so ever offered to the image of the Blessed Mary' in that church should go to Westminster Abbey, not to the vicar of Sawbridgeworth.

Lincoln College accounts have these notes in respect of this custom at All Saints Church, Oxford:

'1505, Sexagesima week, $\frac{1}{2}d.$ was found on the altar of St. Anne.

1510, June, a stranger woman offered $1d.$ at the image of All Saints.

1517, received in oblations before the image of the Saviour, $3d.$; in oblations before the image of St. Mildred, $2d.$

1520, some one offered to the image of All Saints, $1d.$

1527, Aug., received in several oblations at the image of the Saviour, $2d.$ '

2. The southern pilgrimage, from Southwark to the shrine of Thomas Becket at Canterbury had (1383), long before this, provided Chaucer with the framework of his *Canterbury Tales*. Huntingdonshire folk were probably more familiar with the pilgrimage to Walsingham in Norfolk. At Little Walsingham there was a chapel dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, beside which was a spring (St. Mary's well or the Holy well). A cross stood on a stone slab under the edge of this spring. Here pilgrims knelt, while they secretly wished for what they wanted, and afterwards threw a piece of gold on the slab—*A Description of England and Wales* (1769), iv. 266. A popular tune ('Walsingham') took its title from this pilgrimage: Clark's *Shirburn Ballads* (1907), p. 245. Foreign pilgrimages, taken (at this period) to Compostella in Spain, to Triers or Cologne, or the *Santa Casa* at Loretto in Italy, were both toilsome and costly.

3. In their teaching as to the sacrament of baptism, these

Lollards took up an exaggerated 'Traducian' position. In orthodox doctrine it was maintained that original sin was transmitted from parents to child. The Lollards maintained that, in like manner, the grace conferred by baptism was transmitted from baptized parents to child. Baptism, in such cases, was therefore superfluous, since the grace it was supposed to confer had been inherited at birth.

4. The official canons of the Church, after some centuries of varying practice, had finally appointed, as of obligation, abstinence from flesh and fowl on Fridays and Wednesdays weekly; on the vigils (or eves) of Sundays and Festivals; on Saturdays (as well as on Wednesdays and Fridays) in the Ember weeks; and, especially, during the forty days of Lent. Transgressions of these fasts were sedulously sought out by the officials of the Ecclesiastical Courts, and the transgressors brought into Court and punished, often severely. The Lollard position was that these rules ought not to be imposed on the laity. It was perhaps emphasized by an exposition of St. Matt. ix. 14, 'thy disciples fast not.'

5. Burial within the walls of a church meant a considerable fee (latterly 6s. 8d.) to the rector of the parish, if the grave were in the chancel; to the churchwardens, on the parish account, if it were elsewhere in church. A grave in the churchyard meant a small fee to the churchwardens. There were also the fees of the parish-priest, the parish-clerk, and the ringer of the knell at the actual funeral. See the lease of All Saints Church, Oxford, 1539, and the notes about that church in the Forewords.

6. The Lollard position as regards Transubstantiation, a dogma made obligatory by the first Lateran Council, 1215.

7. An attempt at a *reductio ad absurdum* argument. If the host were the body of Christ it should be worth, even at Judas's valuation, 30 silver-pennies (St. Matt. xxvi. 15), how then could a wafer be the body of Christ when it could be bought for $\frac{1}{80}d.$?

8. Apparently the Lollard exposition of St. James v. 16: 'Confess your faults *one to another*.'

9. 1 Chron. xxviii. 9; well known because taken into an introductory Collect in the Ordinary of the Mass in the use of Sarum, whence it has passed into the Anglican service-book.

10. This tenet fixed itself firmly in the minds of the lower

people. In Elizabeth's reign and later the Archdeacons' courts were constantly appealed to by churchwardens to deal with cases where a man and a woman, after publication of banns, lived together as man and wife, without marriage in church. An excellent example is found in the Archdeacon of Colchester's Court, held at Henham, Essex, 27 Nov. 1620, when action was taken against Nicholas Searle and Elizabeth Dye, of Saffron Walden, for 'living together, the banes of matrimonye beinge asked longe since, and not married'. The legislation of the Commonwealth made this, for the time, legal and normal. See, e.g., *Essex Arch. Soc. Transactions*, vol. xiii. pt. 3 (Jan. 1914).

11. Uction might be recognized by *St. James v. 14*, but this use of oil was a frequent subject of popular gibes. It is so found as late as Sir Walter Scott's *Waverley*, chap. lxii.

12. The deadly hatred which later controversy directed against the Pope and Romanist clergy (see verses and woodcuts in *Ballad Society's* issues), as a dreaded foreign and hostile power, was felt by Lollards against the whole Church, Anglican as well as Roman.

13. This carefully-taught equivocation, by which Lollards were trained to meet the searching inquiries of Ecclesiastical Courts, is a remarkable addition to the history of casuistry. It rests on a Lollard exposition of 1 Cor. iii. 16 ('Know ye not that ye are the temple of God').

14. Is it possible that there was in 1457, in mid-England, a militant Lollard party, secretly mustering forces with a view to an armed rising? It is conceivable that traditions of the Peasants' Revolt of 1381 had been handed on from father to son and grandson. In the south, Henry V's ruthless proceedings against Sir John Oldcastle (1414-17) may have crushed the spirits and strength of the Lollards, only to leave smouldering fires of discontent further north.

[II. *Text of the Recantation.*]

Richard
Sparke states
publicly

In the name of god Amen. Before yow, Reuerend fader in r
god, Iohn, by the grace of god Bisshop of lincoln, I, Richard
Sparke of Somersham of youre diocyse, not lettred, make an open
confession & knowlige in the presence of witnesse att this tyme 4

that I haue holden, taught, and affermed, certayn fals articles that he has spoken against the Sacraments of the Church;
 Abiuracio predi- and opinions of heresy and errorrs, agayn
 ctorum Willhelmi many and diuers holy sacramentes and
 Sparke et Ricardi agayn the trewe christen faith and of the
 5 Sparke fratris sui. determinacion of holy Chirche;

and I haue bee present where suche articles and opinions that he has attended con-
uenticles, and listened to heretical teaching;
 haue bee taught, lerned, and affermed, by other persones, & yaf
 faith credence and beleve to hem att diuers tymes where suche
 conuenticles was maad.

10 att whiche tyme, I, sworn to kepe counsel of all suche con- and that he was sworn to secrecy as to these things;
 uentictlers in thise maters, wold neuer vtter nor knowlage, to
 this tyme that I was examined bifor yow, Reuerend fader.

the whiche fals articles and opinions, heresy, and errorrs, of which faults he has now made public admission.
 I haue declared and openly confessed, iudicially sittynge in
 15 examinacion.

And forasmoche as I am certainly and credibly enfourmed He now wishes to abjure all heretical tenets,
 by yow, Reuerend fader, that thes articles and opinions been
 heresy, errorrs, fals and not trewe, and agayn the determinacion
 of holy Chirche, I [am] willing in myn herte to for-sake thes
 20 articles and alle other articles, heresy, errorrs, and erroneous
 opinions contrary to the determinacion of holy Chirche;

And I swere by this boke that I from hens forth shal not and takes oath not to teach such opinions;
 teche, preche, hoold, nor afferme, the saide heresy, errorrs,
 opinions, nor noon other; nor I shal defend hem, nor the
 25 persones that bee of that thair opinion, by me, nor by any other not to defend those who teach them;
 meene person, openly or pryvatly,

nor I shal yef fauour, help, socour, assistance, or counsel to not to associate with Lollards;
 hem, nor hem receyve, nor to hem I shal yef credence, nor be
 in feliship with hem to * my knowlige, nor I shal gif nor send
 30 giftes to hem;

nor I shal hoolde nor receyue doctryne, bokes, quayers,¹ nor and not to read Lollard books.
 elles, concernynge heresy, errorrs, or opinions of hem, nor
 theym vse.

And I swere by this boke that, as soone as I can haue know- He promises to inform the bishop about heretical books and teachers.
 35 lige or vnderstandynge of any suche bokes or of any suche
 persones of suche heresy errorrs and of thair opinions, withoute
 fraude, gyle, or deceyte, I shal make knowlige to the ordinary

* lf. 13 bk.

¹ i. e. pamphlets.

Bisshop of the diocyse wher thay be vsed, as god me help and these holy Euaungelijs.

He sets his
'mark' to
this promise.

In witnesse of these premisses, I, Richard Sparke biforesaide, subscribe my self with myn own hand : et tunc debet facere crucem.¹

5

[III. Formal Act of Excommunication.]

Richard Sparke and William Sparke having been convicted, on their own confession, of holding heretical opinions, have thereby *ipso facto* come under the sentence of the greater excommunication, which is therefore formally pronounced against them by John, bishop of Lincoln.

In dei nomine Amen. Nos, Iohannes, permissione diuina
Lincolniensis Episcopus, Vos, Ricardum Sparke & Willhelmum Sparke de Somersham nostre diocesis, heresim & errores ac
Sentencia excom- opinionones hereticas coram nobis confi- 10
municacionis super tentes, ac confessionem vestram huiusmodi publice factam
materia predicta. sequentes, in sententiam excommunicationis maioris, contra
tales a iure latam, ipso facto incidisse, et exnunc excommuni-
catos fuisse et esse, declaramus in hiis scriptis.

[IV. Conditional Absolution from the Excommunication.]

In regard that Richard Sparke² is sorry for his heresies, the bishop consents to remove the sentence of excommunication pronounced against him, so soon as he has made a public and solemn abjuration of his errors.

In dei nomine Amen. Nos, Iohannes, permissione diuina Lin- 15
colniensis Episcopus, te, Ricardum Sparke
Absolucio eiusdem de Somersham nostre diocesis, de commissis
sentencie excom- tuis hereticam prauitatem concernentibus
municacionis. penitentem, facta primitus per te solempni
abiuracione in hac parte requisita, a sententia excommunica- 20
cionis maioris quam tu in hac parte meruisti, absoluimus in hiis
scriptis.

¹ 'and then he must make a cross'; i. e. being 'not lettred', p. 96, and unable to write his name, he must attach his mark + to this statement.

² The same acts, here and in what follows, were of course made, with due change of name, for William Sparke.

[V. *Form of Solemn Abjuration to be read publicly by Richard Sparke at the time of his doing penance.*]

I, Richard Sparke of Somersham, alle thes fals heresies,
vntrew articles, and fals opinions, the whiche I haue long
taught, holden, and yeven faith & credence
Verba dicenda per to theym, agayn many and diuers holy
5 penitentem, circa sacramentes, and agayn the trew christen
forum &c.(vt infra) faithe and agayn the trewe determinacion
suam penitenciam of holy Chirche, the whiche I laate iudi-
agentem. cially confessed and openly knowliched
before the Reuerend fader in god, Iohn, now Bisshop of Lincoln;
10 for the whiche of hym I was assoiled, and toke this penaunce,
and them bifore hym forsoke, renounced, abiured, and openly
forswore; and soo now, in this open audience, forsake, renounce,
abiure, and forswere, and alle other contrarye to the determina-
cion of holy chirch; and for the horryble synne of heresy
15 biforesaide that I haue long continued, I biseche yow mekely
of peyn, and disciplyne, & correccion; and pray yow alle that
stande here abowte to pray god for, me,

[VI. *Severe Public Penance enjoined by the Bishop's Consistory Court on the two Lollards.*]

The Latin text is given *verbatim* here; an English paraphrase follows.
The marginal letters and figures, which are attached to the Latin text,
refer to the sections and subsections of that English version.

Iohannes, permissione diuina Lincolniensis Episcopus, Dilectis (A.)
in christo filiis Decanis Decanatum de Huntyngdon et de
20 sancto Iuone, ac Rectori ecclesie parochialis de Somersham seu
eius Capellano parochiali, necnon Capellano parochiali ecclesie
parochialis de Ramesey nostre diocesis, salutem, gratiam, &
benedictionem.

Quia quidem Willhelmus Sparke de Somersham predicta, et (B.)
25 Ricardus Sparke de eadem,
Mandatum ad vocandum super heresibus et erroribus (i)
hereticos ad penitentiam. ac familiaritate hereticorum nobis
detecti & delati ac denunciati,
ac penes nos verisimiliter suspecti, (ii)

- (iii) ad certos diem et locum iam effluxos, coram nobis, super certis articulis heresim et errores ac opiniones erroneas concernentibus responsuri,
- (iv) iudicialiter euocati, et personaliter comparentes,
- (v) huiusmodi articulos, eorum vtrique diuisim per nos iudicialiter obiectos, humiliter fatebantur, et pro eisdem articulis fidem adhibuerunt et doctrinis eorundem.
- (C.) Et quia iidem Willhelmus & Ricardus, per nos informati,
- (vi) et virtute informacionis huiusmodi recognoscentes et scientes huiusmodi articulos fuisse et esse hereticos [et] falsos, et suas opinioniones fuisse erroneas et falsas, contra determinacionem sancte Romane ecclesie,
- (vii) Et volentes propterea catholicam sequi doctrinam et ab omni huiusmodi heretica recedere prauitate, ac ad vnitatem ecclesie sponte et prona voluntate redire, cordis contricione,
- (viii) per presumpcionem coniecturatam¹ detestabantur huiusmodi articulos, hereses, et errores ac opinioniones eorundem, tanquam contra fidem catholicam et ecclesiam Sanctam Romanam impugnantes, et eosdem articulos ac omnem hereticam prauitatem, & doctrinam eius, in forma in scriptis redactam, publice & solemniter abiurarunt,
- (ix) et se nostre correccioni humiliter submittentes, absolucionem a sententia excommunicacionis, quam occasione premissorum incurrebant, sibi impendi,
- (x) et condignam penitentiam pro suis huiusmodi commissis sibi merito iniungendam et infligendam petierunt, et eorum vterque petiit:
- (D.) Nos, animaduertentes quod ecclesia nulli claudit gremium redeunti, et quod deus non vult mortem peccatoris, set vt potius conuertatur et viuat, eosdem Willhelmum et Ricardum, prestito primitus per eos et eorum utrumque iuramento solempni quod similia imposterum non committent, vt in forma²;
- (xii) a sententia * excommunicacionis maioris, quam ea occasione incurrebant, absoluius, in forma iuris,
- (xiii) et eisdem penitentiam iniunximus salutarem, videlicet,
- (E.) quod eorum vterque, braccis et camisia tantum indutus, cum
- (xiv)

* lf. 14.

¹ These three words seem to be a mis-transcription. The sense re-

quired is 'according to a prescribed form': see p. 96.

² See this form, p. 99.

vno fasciculo (anglice, a fagot) in collo et humeris suis posito, et
candela cerea valoris j. d. in manu sua accensa,

vnica vice circa forum ville Huntyngdon, et alia vice in villa (xv)
de sancto Iuone, tempore publici mercati, ac vnica vice in simili
5 forma penitencie diebus dominicis & festiuis circa ecclesias [The Church
parochiales de Somersham et de Ramesey predictis, coram pro- procession.]
cessionem dum maior affuerit populi multitudo, pacienter, humi-
liter, et deuote incedat,

& huiusmodi penitencia sic finita, suum cereum huiusmodi ad (xvi)
10 altare ecclesie, vbi finem penitencie fecerit, humiliter offerat,
genibus flexis.

Quocirca vobis, tam communiter¹ quam diuisim, in virtute (F.)
obediencie et sub pena contemptus puniendi, firmiter iniungimus
et mandamus quatenus quilibet vestrum in loco, more suo, (xvii)
15 existens, superpellicio et stola indutus, cum virga in manu sua,

dictos willhelmum et Ricardum, diebus dominicis et festiuis (xviii)
proxime post recepcionem presencium sequentibus, iuxta direc-
cionem & discrecionem Dilecti in christo filii Magistri Iohannis
leek, Commissarij nostri pro locis et temporibus assignandis
20 eisdem, ad penitentiam antedictam in forma antedicta per-
agendam, euocet,

et in peracione huiusmodi penitencie insequatur, (xix)

ac in quatuor cornibus cimiteriorum et mercati locorum pre- (xx)
dictorum fustiget et disciplinet, Necnon causam peracionis
25 huiusmodi penitencie exponet populo publice in vulgari.

De diebus execucionis presencium, et quid feceritis & dicti (G.)
Willhelmus & Ricardus fecerint in premissis, nos (pro loco et
tempore congruis & oportunis) debite certificetis, aut certificet
ille vestrum qui presens nostrum mandatum fuerit executus,
30 aut receperit exequendum, anglice,² sub sigillo.

Datum nostro sub sigillo ad causas, in Manerio nostro de (H.)
Bukden, xxvij^{mo} die Maij Anno Domini Millesimo cccc^{lo} septimo,
Et nostre consecracionis Anno quinto.

[*Simplified English rendering of the Public Penance imposed on the
Somersham Lollards by the Ecclesiastical Court.*]

[A.] John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln, issued a mandate to the Rural
Dean of Huntingdon, the Rural Dean of St. Ives, the Rector (or his

¹ 'coniunctim' is the more usual
word in this formula.

² This word is a doubtful expan-
sion of an indistinct contraction.

parochial deputy¹) of Somersham, and the parochial chaplain of Ramsey, all in Huntingdonshire.

[B.] He informed them that William Sparke, and Richard Sparke, of Somersham, Huntingdonshire,

(i) had been informed against as holding Lollard opinions and consorting with Lollards;

(ii) had been, with reason, suspected by the bishop's court of these offences;

(iii) had been cited to appear before the Ecclesiastical Court, to answer articles involving charges of heresy;

(iv) had attended the Court; and answered in person, when their names were called out;

(v) and had admitted that the articles alleged against them represented, one by one, the heads of their teaching.

[C.] Thereupon, William Sparke and Richard Sparke,

(vi) had been told that these tenets of theirs were false, heretical, and contrary to the decision of the holy Roman church;

(vii) had desired to abandon their heretical tenets, and in future to cleave to Catholic doctrine and observe the unity of the Church;

(viii) had expressed their abhorrence of their past heresies, as being in contradiction to the Catholic faith and the holy Roman church; and had done so publicly and in writing;

(ix) had submitted themselves to be dealt with by the Court, making humble petition to be absolved from the greater excommunication which they had, by these offences, brought on themselves;

(x) and had asked that such penance, as should be thought adequate to their offences, should be put upon them.

[D.] Wherefore, the Ecclesiastical Court, remembering that the bosom of the Church is ever open to those who seek reconciliation, and that God willeth not the death of a sinner but that the sinner should rather be converted and live,

(xi) exacted of William Sparke and Richard Sparke a solemn oath that in future they would avoid like offences;

(xii) absolved them from the greater excommunication;

(xiii) and imposed upon them this following form of penance, viz.—

[E.] William Sparke and Richard Sparke shall, each of them,

(xiv) clad only in his breeches and his shirt, bearing a fagot on his neck and shoulders, and carrying a penny wax-candle (lighted) in his hand;

(xv) once on the usual market-day, in full market-time, meekly, as a penitent, walk round the public market-place of the town of Huntingdon;

¹ The impropriation of ancient Rectories by monasteries had introduced considerable variance, and therefore doubt, as to the actual title of the parson in effective charge of the parish (vicar, or chaplain, or curate). It was only Victorian legislation which produced unifor-

mity of title, by directing that every parish-parson, who was not Rector, should be called Vicar. Since 1868, if the parson receives the corn-tithes and is responsible for the repairs of the chancel, he is Rector; otherwise, Vicar.

once, in the same way, walk round the market-place of St. Ives; once, on a Sunday or Holy-day (when the procession takes place and there is therefore a great attendance of people), in the same way, walk round the Churchyard of Somersham; and once, in the same way, round the Churchyard of Ramsey;

(xvi) and, when this penance has been fully done, shall, on bended knees, humbly offer what remains of his wax-candle as an offering to the altar of that church where his penance is concluded.

[F.] Moreover, the Ecclesiastical Court, in the name of the canonical obedience due by them to the bishop, and under threat of punishment for neglect of this mandate, called upon each of the above-mentioned priests,

(xvii) to attend at the market-place or churchyard which was within his own special jurisdiction, each duly attired in surplice and stole,¹ and having a rod in his hand, on the days appointed;

(xviii) to carry out the order of John Leek, the bishop's Commissary, by summoning the two Lollards to stand forth to undergo penance according to the form already set forth;

(xix) to follow them as they walked round market-place and churchyard;

(xx) and to beat and discipline them (with the rod) at each corner of the market-place or churchyard, proclaiming, publicly and in the vulgar tongue, the cause of this penance.²

[G.] Further, the four clerics are required to certify carefully, in English (?), in writing and under seal, what each of them did in this matter on each day of the penance and how the two Lollards bore themselves in doing it.

[H.] This mandate was issued, under the Bishop's seal *ad causas*, at Buckden manor, in Huntingdonshire, 27 May, 1457, in the bishop's fifth year from his consecration.

[VII. *Official Record of the conclusion of the case and the imposition of the assigned penance.*]

The Latin text is given *verbatim*, but broken up into paragraphs, with figures (entered in the margin) which refer to the corresponding paragraphs of the English summary which follows.

Memorandum quod xxvijo die Iunij, Anno domini Millesimo (i)

Acta facta super Abiuracione. cccc 1^o septimo, Et Anno Consecracionis Reuerendi in christo patris & domini, Domini Iohannis, dei gracia Lincolniensis Episcopi, quinto, In ecclesia prebendali de Bukden lincolniensis diocesis,

comparuerunt personaliter, coram dicto Reuerendo patre, (ii)

Willhelmus Sparke et eius vxor de Somersham dicte Lincolniensis diocesis, ac Ricardus Sparke, frater dicti willhelmi Sparke, de eadem:

¹ See p. 127.

² See p. 99.

- (iii) et interrogati [sunt] per dictum Reuerendum patrem, eisdem die, loco, et Anno domini supradictis, de articulis supradictis, quos quidem articulos omnes et singulos, coram dicto Reuerendo patre et testibus subscriptis, publice fatebantur, et eorum quilibet fatebatur, 5
- (iv) ac eosdem articulos et omnes alios articulos, errores, et erroneas opiniones hereseos prauitatem concernentes, vt sibi¹ publice abiurabant et renunciabant, ac eorum quilibet abiurabat et renunciabat,
- (v) quas vero abiuracionem & renunciacionem superscriptas in 10 lingua materna legebant, et eorum quilibet legebat, coram prefato Reuerendo patre ;
- (vi) et iniuncta [est] eis et eorum quilibet per dictum Reuerendum patrem penitencia salutaris pro commissis, vt in manuscripto superscripto, 15
- (vii) [et² emanauit mandatum ad quattuor presbyteros supradictos] ad vocandos prefatos Willhelmum et Ricardum ad penitenciam agendam, sicut in eodem plenius continetur.
- (viii) Presentibus tunc ibidem, Magistris Thoma leger, Limiricensi Episcopo ac dicti Reuerendi patris, domini Iohannis Lincolnensis 20 Episcopi, Suffraganeo ; Ricardo Halle, decretorum doctoribus, Willhelmo Wytham, legum doctore ; Thoma Estyngton et Edmundo Shiref, artium Magistris ; Iohanne Rudyng, in legibus bacallario, Thoma Michell, in decretis bacallario, ac vicario perpetuo dicte ecclesie prebendalis de Bukden ; Iohanne 25 Bugg, Iohanne Tyssington, et laurencio Bartelott, publicis (auctoritatibus apostolica & imperiali) notariis ; ac multis aliis.

[*Abbreviated English rendering.*]

(i) On 27 June, 1457, in the fifth year of the consecration of John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln, and in the prebendal church of Buckden in Huntingdonshire, in the diocese of Lincoln,

(ii) William Sparke (and his wife) of Somersham, Huntingdonshire, and Richard Sparke (William's brother), appeared.

¹ These two words are a mis-transcription. Words like 'tunc et ibidem' (= then and there) are needed.

² The meaning is clear enough

from the preceding record, but a line seems missing from the transcript, to the effect here supplied within brackets.

(iii) When questioned by the bishop about the Articles preferred against them, they admitted that these set forth the tenets that they had maintained;

(iv) but they, then and there, abjured these and all other heretical tenets,
(v) and read aloud their abjurations in the mother tongue.

(vi) Thereupon, the bishop assigned them soul-saving penance (as on pp. 100, 101),

(vii) and directed certain priests (as on p. 99) to call upon William Sparke and Richard Sparke to do penance, as ordered them.

(viii) Witnesses on this occasion were—

Thomas Leger,¹ bishop of Limerick, and suffragan to John, bishop of Lincoln;

Richard Halle, Doctor of Decrees;²

William Wytham, Doctor of Laws;³

Thomas Estyngton and Edmund Shiref, Masters of Arts;

John Rudyng, Bachelor of Laws;

Thomas Michell, Bachelor of Decrees, and perpetual Vicar of Buckden;

John Bugg, John Tyssington, and Laurence Bartelott, notaries public by licence of the Pope and the emperor;⁴

and many others.

[*Note as to Penances imposed by the Ecclesiastical Courts.*]

The severity, and unnecessarily humiliating features, of the punishments imposed in the Ecclesiastical Courts continued right on into Elizabeth's reign, or even later. From the official minute-books of the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex, I give some hitherto unpublished notices of these 'penances', which both illustrate the system and show how each individual penance differed at the discretion of the presiding judge. The conjunction of open penance in both market and church continued a long time, but was gradually replaced by open penance in church only.

15 December, 1569, a young woman of High Ongar, Essex, was sentenced by the Archdeacon of Essex

to appear at Chelmsford to do open penance in the market, in a sheet, and ther to confesse her offense penitently, and on Sunday after to do the lyke in Ongar church.

¹ 'Hugh Lacy (or Lees)' is the name given in *Fasti Eccles. Hibern.*

² 'of Decrees,' i.e. of Canon Law.

³ 'of Laws,' i.e. of Civil Law.

⁴ The usual formula descriptive of notaryship, when written in full.

16 December, 1590, a young woman of Bradwell-on-Sea, Essex, was ordered—

vpon Satterdaye nexte to come into Malden towne, where she shal be placed openly vpon some scaffolde, abowte xi. of the clocke in the forenoone of the same daye, and shall there stand vntill one of the clock in the afternoone of the same daye, in a white sheete, and a white wande in her hand; and the next Sunday following she shall come into the church of Bradwell, at the beginninge of the first lesson for morning praier, attired in a whyt sheet, and shall there in penitent manner continewe vntyll the service and sermon be ended.

On 17 June, 1591, a parishioner of Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex, received this sentence in the Archdeacon of Essex's Court:

He shall vpon the next Saboth, or vpon Sundaye come sevenighte, at the beginninge of morninge praier, come into the church of Burnham, apparrelled in a white sheete, and white wande in his hande, and there shal be placed in some conveniente place, neare the minister and in sighte of the congregation there assembled, and so stande vntill such tyme as the minister in the tyme of sermon (or of readinge of an homilie) shall call for him, and then [he] shall confesse and acknowledge that, whereas he hath byn called before the judge of this corte for suspicion of evil life, and by denieing therof hath had the benefytt of law to purge¹ him selfe (if he so cold²), wherein he hath fayld, and is therefore founde by lawe and pronounced for guiltie of the fact, he doth therefore acknowledg that he hath greuously offended the maiestie of God in his wicked life and adulterous lyvinge; for which his most wicked and adulterous life, he shall aske mercy at the hands of almighty God and desire him in his mercy to pardon him his former ill life, and desire the congregation presente also to forgyve him, and to pray with him that he may be forgyven his wickednes at God's hands; and promise amendment of his former wickednes; and shall then say some praier after the minister, at the minister's discretion.

12 December, 1592, in the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex held in Ingatestone Church, a parishioner of Downham, Essex, had this sentence:

On Sundaie next he shall come to Downham Church at the last peale to serve, and there stand in a white sheete at the church porche till the second lesson be redd, and then shall goe into the Church, and there stand and penitently confesse his fault and offence.

It was certified in a Court, held 19 January, 1593, that this penance had been performed.

This humiliating form of public penance became still more degraded when people of substance could purchase exemption

¹ See p. 109.

² i. e. could.

from it. It is one of the many indications of the great poverty of Elizabeth's reign that Ecclesiastical Judges are found readily assenting to 'commutation' of penance. Even where the Archdeacon did not feel authorized to allow such commutation, an appeal to the Bishop was generally successful in obtaining it. The following examples are all authentic, being taken from the official minute-books of the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex, and are, I think, fairly representative of this unpleasant feature of English social life. Wealthy people could buy commutation; poor people continued to be exposed to open shame.

13 December, 1569, the Archdeacon of Essex sentenced a parishioner of Leyton, Essex, to penance:

viz. that he should stande in Romford markett, the next markett daye, *more penitentis*, all the markett tyme, in a whyte sheate, and a rod in his hande, and in his parish church of Leyton, in the same way, on the Sunday following, and ther shall acknowledg his offenses penitently.

But, on appeal of the man so sentenced, backed by entreaty of some of his neighbours, he was excused penance, on condition of giving 10*s.* each to three poor scholars of Cambridge, and 10*s.* towards the repair-fund of Leyton church.

29 February, 159 $\frac{1}{2}$, a parishioner of Romford, who had been ordered public penance in Romford Chapel, on a Sunday, in the time of Morning Prayer, brought a petition in his favour signed by some parishioners, and was allowed to substitute semi-private penance before the minister and some parishioners selected by the minister, on condition of putting 20*s.* into the hands of the minister to be distributed by him among the poor of Romford liberty.

31 March, 1596, William Tabor, Archdeacon of Essex, who had ordered public penance to two persons, received a letter, dated 4 March, 159 $\frac{5}{8}$, in which Richard Fletcher, bishop of London, in consideration of money paid to him 'to be employed in godly uses', discharged both parties from obligation to do penance, and ordered all proceedings against them in the Ecclesiastical Courts to cease.

XII: Proceedings, taken 1457, against Thomas Hull of Hertford, for practising the Black Art.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, apparently from leaf 14 or 1f. 14 bk., but presumably not the whole record.

The belief in the power of 'necromancers' (adepts in the 'black art') to invoke evil spirits, and compel them to discover buried treasure, and render like services, continued so late that the practice became not only a favourite theme of the *raconteur* and novelist (see John Aubrey's *Brief Lives*, under Thomas Allen, i. 27, and John Dee, i. 213, and Sir Walter Scott's *Waverley*, ch. xiii), but an anathema of the Statute-books (both English, viz. 1563, 5 Eliz. cap. 16; and Scottish, see Sir Walter Scott's *Waverley*, chap. lxvii).

Charges of witchcraft, as being against the Canon Law, were constantly brought before the Ecclesiastical Courts. I give here a number of later authentic instances of such charges, taken from the official minute-books of the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex. They serve to illustrate this old Hertfordshire case, as mentioned in this set of papers; and also to indicate the wide range of this popular belief.

12 July, 1591, in the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex, held in West Ham Church, two widows of Woodford, Essex, were cited to answer charges of witchcraft. In both cases, since the charge is preferred by one person, it was probably brought in by a man who believed himself to have been bewitched.

Widow May, of Woodford, accused: she hath of long tyme byne suspected for a wiche, and nowe of late suspected by William Foxe.

Widow Coppres, of Woodford, accused: she hath of long time been suspected for a wiche, and nowe of late by John Poole.

In many cases recourse was had to the reputed wizard, in the belief that he could by his skill detect a thief:

3 February, 159½, in a Court of the Archdeacon of Essex held in Romford Chapel, John Munday, of Loughton, Essex, appeared, on a charge made by the Churchwardens there, that he 'went to a connyng man to learne of goods that were stolen or gon.' The case was dismissed.

16 June, 1595, in a Court of the Archdeacon of Essex, held in Romford Chapel, the churchwardens of Barking, in Essex, complained that — Carter, of that parish, is generally reported to be a cunning man, 'and dothe take monye of diuerse to helpe theim to things lost and stolen, viz. of one for 2 clokes stolen, <of another> for a ring lost.'

Another common reason of resort to conjurers, was to obtain their help to force spirits to reveal the position of buried treasure. There was an entertaining instance of this at Beeleigh Abbey, near Maldon, Essex, in 1591: see *Essex Review*, xvi. 68.

Frequently the supposed wizard, or cunning man, was consulted about illness, human or of cattle.

2 May, 1592, in a Court of the Archdeacon of Essex held in Romford Chapel, John Grave, junior, of Romford, was delated by the churchwardens there that he 'doth goe and seeke after witchery.' Accused said that his wife, without his consent, 'did goe to father Perfoche, to learne of him some medecyne for some cattell that he had sick, but he knoweth not that father Perfoche is a witche; and his wife (as he verely beleveth) did neuer thinke him to be a witche, and went not to him desirouse to obtaine any helpe for his cattell by any suche meanes.'

Grave was solemnly admonished against having recourse to sorcery; and was dismissed the Court on payment of 2s. Court-fees.

In the same Court, on the same day, on the same charge, proceedings were instituted against William Moushowe, of Romford, with the same result.

To repel a charge of this sort, the accused person, if allowed by the Court, might produce written testimony of good character.

2 May, 1592, in a Court of the Archdeacon of Essex, held in Romford Chapel, Alice, wife of William Foster of Barkinge, suspected by common fame to be a witche, brought a certificate of her innocency under the hands of the Churchwardens there. The case was dismissed, but the accused had to pay the Court-fee (12*d.*) and the apparitor's fee (4*d.*), as well as the expenses of the journey to Romford.

3 May, 1592, in a Court of the Archdeacon of Essex, held in Ingatestone Church, it was reported that one Whaple of Fobbing did make complaint against Joan Bell, of Fobbing, of suspicion of wytchcraft. She appeared in Court, and 'vtterly denieth' the suspicion to be true. She was ordered to bring to a later Court a certificate from 'fower of her honest neighbors' that she is reputed to be an honest woman and not at all thought to be a witch. On 2 June, 1592, she brought into Court a certificate from honest women of Fobbing that she lay under no suspicion of witchcraft.

In other cases the Court refused to allow an accused person to clear himself, except by the cumbrous and expensive process of compurgation. A deed was drawn out, to be publicly read, on a Sunday, in the church of the parish where the offence was alleged to have been committed, announcing that at a Court to

be held at a given place and on a given day, the accused person proposed to purge himself of the charge by taking oath of innocence, and inviting all who objected to such purgation to attend the Court and give evidence against the accused. The accused then attended the appointed Court, bringing with him his compurgators (in number four, six, eight, or other number, as had been fixed by the Court), and exhibiting his parish-priest's certificate that the 'Intimacion' had been duly read. Objectors were then invited to appear, and, if any attended, were heard, and the case adjourned. If no objection was made, the accused person took oath openly that he was innocent of the charge, and each of the compurgators took oath that he believed that the accused person had sworn the truth. Compurgators for men had to be men of good repute, of the same (or neighbouring) parish as the accused; for women, honest women, of the same (or neighbouring) parish; for clerics, beneficed clergy of neighbouring parishes. On the strength of these oaths, the accused was acquitted, and granted a certificate to prevent any future proceedings on the same charge. The fees were considerable: 2s. 6d. for the *Intimacio*; 4d. for each oath taken; 13s. 4d. for the certificate; and, in addition, the usual fees to the Court and to the Apparitors. Besides, the accused no doubt had to defray the day's expenses of those who appeared as compurgators.

5 May, 1592. In a Court of the Archdeacon of Essex, held in All Saints Church, Maldon, Margaret Wiseman (wife of John Wiseman of Maulden) was delated by the Churchwardens, for that she is suspected by common fame of wylchcrafte. She claimed and was allowed purgation. 5 July, 1592, she appeared in Court with her *Compurgatrices* (Judith wife of John Cowrtol, Margaret wife of Thomas Carter, Agnes wife of George Warner, Agnes wife of Robert Brierly, Agnes wife of Richard Flude, and Elizabeth wife of John Pratt—all of Maldon). Margaret Wiseman then took oath that she is 'altogether guyltless of the facte of witchcrafte and also of all occation of suspicion of witchcrafte'. Her six compurgatrices then took oath that Margaret Wiseman hath sworn a just and true oath, and that she 'hath not geven any cause of suspicion of witchcrafte'. Her purgation was then admitted, and the testimonial of its acceptance was signed; but the Judge of the Court solemnly admonished her to be most careful in future to give no cause, in any way, for like suspicion.

[I. *Confession of, and Abjuration of, Acts of Necromancy by Thomas Hull, of Hertford.*]

In the name of god Amen. I, Thomas hulle of Hertford, confesse afor yow, Reuerende ffader in god, Iohn, by the grace of god Bissshop of lincoln, that I haue yeven ayde, counsell, help, and fauour vnto oon Thomas Curteys, to thentent that he exercised and vsed nigromancy & heresy. Wherefore I abiure and forswer alle maner of heresies and errours, & promyt that I shal never (in tyme to come) yef ayde, help, fauour, nor socour, nor counsell to any that holdeth heresies or vseth nigromancy in tyme to come. Soo help me god and the holy Euaungeliis: et¹ iurabat supra librum, et fecit signum crucis &c.

[II. *Latin Record of the Conclusion of the Case.*]

Ista abiuracio lecta fuit per dictum Thomam Hulle coram dicto Reuerendo patre, Episcopo Lincolniensi, in ecclesia parochiali Omnium Sanctorum de Hertford predicte diocesis: testibus Magistris willhelmo wytham, legum doctore; Iohanne leek, in decretis licenciato; Thoma Estyngton, artium Magistro; Iohanne Boterwyke, in legibus bacallario; Iohanne Elveden & laurencio Bartelott, notariis publicis; ac multis aliis, xxij^{do} die Iunij, Anno domini m^o cccc lvij^o, Et Anno Consecracionis dicti Reuerendi patris sexto.

[*The above Record in English.*]

This abjuration was read by Thomas Hull, before John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln, in All Saints Church, Hertford;

in presence of

William Wytham, Doctor of Laws;

John Leek, licentiate² in the Decrees;

Thomas Estyngton, Master of Arts;

John Boterwyke, Bachelor of Laws;

John Elveden and Laurence Bartelott, notaries public;

and many others;

22 June, 1457, in the 6th year of the bishop's Consecration.

¹ i. e. he took oath to this effect on the Gospels; and, being unable to write his name, attested this promise, by making his mark +.

² The exact status of the 'licentiate' is doubtful. As I take it, he

had completed all the requirements for the Doctorate, except that he had not gone through the final 'Inception' ceremony: see *Registrum Universitatis Oxon.* (O. H. S.), II. i. 117-22.

XIII: Agreement, 1458, between Ellis North, master of the chantry at Chalgrave, Bedfordshire, and John Dey, a chantry-priest of the same chantry.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 43 bk. There had been a lawsuit between these two as to their respective shares of the income from, and of the necessary outlay upon, the chantry-estate. The bishop of Lincoln had been asked to arbitrate between the parties to the suit. This agreement is in supplement of the bishop's award.

12 July, 1458.

I, sir helys North, Maister of the Chauntry of Chalgrave, And I, sir Iohn dey, felaw of the same place, be fully agreed of all maner of matiers fro the begin-
Concordia inter nyng of the world vnto this day;

Before
4 August, 1458,
Ellis North is
to pay to John
Dey £3 18s. 4d.

**Magistrum &
socium de
Chalgrave.**

and I, the said sir helys, shall giff vnto the 5
said sir Iohn dey by the sonday after lammesse
day next commyng v. marces vj s. viij d.;

John Dey is to
bear half the
outlay payable
by the chantry,
and allow
Ellis North
yearly 6s. 8d.,
in addition to
the 13s. 4d.
allowed him
by the dio-
cesan's award.

And I, the said sir Iohn dey, fro this day forward, shal bere half of al maner of chargies to the said Chauntry belongyng;

And I, the said sir helys, shal haue yerely xx s., where hit 10
is but xij s. iiij d. in the award of my lord of lincoln, and shall
answere to sir Iohn dey for his parte of the ferme of Offlegh¹
duryng the termes of william Sheppard, fermour there, and
shal kepe the said award of my lord of lincoln (except the
said xx s.)

15

And ichon of vs shall withdraw all temporell accions that
either of vs have agayn other, at the propre costes of him that
so sweth.

In wittenesse wherof ichon of vs to this bill haue subscribed
his name, and promised by the faith of oure bodys to kepe and 20
obserue for oure tymes.

there beyng presentibus ibidem: Magistro willhelmo witham,
laurencio Bertlot, & me tyssington²: xij. die Iulij Anno domini
m^o cccclviij^o.

* lf. 43 bk.

¹ Great Offley, Hertfordshire.

² John Tyssington, p. 104. It was
the custom for a notary public to
sign with his surname only, omitting

his baptismal name. This old cus-
tom is still kept up by the Town-
clerks of various boroughs, e.g. of
Oxford.

XIV: Vow of celibacy, 1458, by Isabel Portyngton, widow, of Barton-on-Humber, Lincolnshire.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 46 bk. See in the Forewords.

[I. *English Text of the Vow.*]

* In the name of god, Amen; I Isabel portyngton, of the diocise of lincoln, wydowe, and not wedded ne to no man ensured, behote and make avowe to god & to oure lady & to all the company of hevyn, in the presence of you, worshipful fader in god, Iohn, Bisshop of lincoln, for to be
 5 **Votum castitatis** chaste of my body, and treuly & deuoutly
Isabelle shall kepe me chaste from this tyme forward
portyngton. aslong as my lyff lastith, after the reule of saint poole. In nomine patris & filij & spiritus sancti, Amen.

Vow by Isabel Portyngton, solemnly taken,

[II. *Formal Latin Record of the Vow.*]

10 Die dominica, videlicet vltimo die decembris, Anno domini Millesimo cccc l octauo, in Ecclesia conuentuali domus fratrum predicatorum Oxonie, Reuerendus in christo pater & dominus, dominus Iohannes, dei gratia lincolniensis Episcopus, pontificalibus indutus, intra missarum solempnia, munus benedictionum
 15 honeste mulieri Isabelle portyngton de Barton super humbre, votum castitatis in scriptis redactum facienti & legenti, impendebat, ceteraque fecit in huiusmodi solempnitate requisita: presentibus, Magistris willhelmo wytham, legum doctore; Iohanne Rudyng, Archidiacono Stowie; Tyssington¹, laurencio
 20 norrys, & bugg¹.

Sunday, 31 December, 1458, in Blackfriars Church, Oxford, during celebration of Mass, before John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln.

XV: Vow of celibacy, 1459, by Joan Manfeld, widow.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 46 bk.

[I. *English Text of the Vow.*]

In the name of the fader son & holy gost, Amen. I, Iohne Manfeld, wydow, & not wedded, nor vnto no man ensured, behote and avowe to god & to oure lady and to all the holy company of hevyn in the presence of you, Reuerend fader in

Vow by Joan Manfeld, solemnly taken,

* lf. 46 bk.

¹ John Tyssington and John Bugg, notaries public: see p. 105.

god, Iohn, by the grace of god bishop of Lincoln, for to be
 chaste of my body, and (treuly and devoutly)
Votum castitatis shall keep me chaste from this tyme for-
Iohanne Manfeld. ward as long as my lyff lastith, after the
 reule of saint paule. In nomine patris & filii & spiritus sancti, 5
 Amen.

[II. *Formal Latin Record of this Vow.*]

Whitsunday,
 14 May, 1459,
 in Blackfriars
 Church,
 Oxford, during
 Mass, before
 John Ched-
 worth, bishop
 of Lincoln.

In die Pentecostes, xiiii. videlicet Maij, Anno Domini
 Millesimo cccc lix^o, in Ecclesia conuentuali domus fratrum
 predicatorum Oxonie, Reuerendus in Christo pater et dominus,
 dominus Iohannes, dei gratia Lincolniensis episcopus, pontifi- 10
 calibus indutus, intra missarum solempnia, munus benedictionum
 honeste mulieri Iohanne Manfeld impendebat; presentibus,
 Magistris Willhelmo Wytham, legum doctore; Iohanne Rudyng,
 Archidiacono Stowie; Thoma Whitfeld, Edmundo Shireff, &
 laurencio Bertlot, ac multis alijs.

15

**XVI: Confession of Richard Pyckard, followed by his
 formal expulsion from the list of Notaries public
 entitled to practise in the Consistory Court of
 Lincoln Diocese.**

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 47. The story is not very clearly told in the Register, but this seems to be the substance of it. Two chief offences had been brought home to the culprit. First, he had accepted bribes to foist Robert Cade, priest, into the perpetual curacy of Aylesby (near Grimsby, Lincolnshire). The Bishop of Lincoln presented to the rectory of Aylesby 24 March, 144 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Alnwick's Register, fol. 97), but the church was soon afterwards appropriated to Lincoln Minster. The date of the proceedings is uncertain, since the documents in the Register are out of order, the one before Pyckard's case is 1458, but the one before that is 1557. The one after Pyckard's case is 1564. So far as I can make out, bishop John Chedworth had claimed the right of presentation to the curacy on this occasion for himself, on some technical ground. The bishop had then caused his mandate for the institution of his nominee to be made out, and committed it to this notary (Richard Pyckard) for transmission to 'Master' Alexander, who was possibly acting as deputy of the Archdeacon of Lincoln. Richard Pyckard, thereupon broke open the sealed envelope ('pyxis'), removed the bishop's real mandate, and substituted for it (probably by erasure of the name in it and substitution of Robert Cade's name) a faked mandate, which deceived 'Master' Alexander, and procured the institution of Robert Cade to the

benefice. Secondly, in some transactions, Richard Pyckard had represented himself to be a much-trusted local attorney, by name Roger Jordan, and, under cloak of that name, had executed fraudulent deeds, possibly in connexion with the advowson dispute.

The Ecclesiastical Court, which dealt with the case, under presidency of William Wytham, LL.D. (Archdeacon of Stow, 1458-72, but acting in his capacity as chancellor, and Commissary of the bishop), Richard Hall (Official principal of the bishop of Lincoln), and Richard Lyklun (President of the Consistory Court of Lincoln), met in St. Mary's church, Stamford.

guilty man, in St. Michael's church, Stamford, was divested of coat, shoes, and stockings, and led bareheaded, and barefooted, clad only breeches and shirt, from that church to appear before his judges in St. Mary's church.

[I. *English Text of public confession of guilt on the first charge.*]

* **I** Richard Pyckard, be fore al this pepull here assembeled, **Confessio Ricardi Pyckard.** Richard Pyckard admits forging a deed (by which he deceived John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln), having accepted a bribe of £20 to get Robert Cade made incumbent of Aylesby, Lincolnshire.

falsly forged letteres by the which I haue deceyued my lord Iohn, by the grace of god Bisshop of lincoln; And, by fals Symonye and wynnyng of the valour of xx li. that I haue receyued, I haue vntreuly put Sir Robert Cade, prest, in possession of the benefice of Aylesby perteynyng to the Collacion of my said lord of lincoln, agayn the trew order of lawe, and agayne the wyлле and thentent of my said lord of lincoln: for the which I crye god mercy, and aske my said lord forgifnesse.

[II. *Latin Record of Proceedings connected with this Public Confession.*]

Hanc confessionem in Ecclesia parochiali beate Marie ville stamford (coram Magistris willhelmo Wytham, legum doctore, & Ricardo halle, Officiali lincolniensi, Ricardo Dyklun, presidente Curie Consistorij lincolniensis ac Aldermanno dicte ville, Willhelmo Broune, Thoma Gregory, Magistris willhelmo Rath, willhelmo Goodyere, & nonnullis alijs) idem Ricardus Pyckard braccis & camisia tantum indutus, & coram huiusmodi venerabilibus viris, ab ecclesia parochiali sancti Michaelis Stamford vsque eandem ecclesiam beate Marie incedens, more penitentis, publice perlegit, vna cum hac clausula—

This confession was made in St. Mary's, Stamford, before the Ecclesiastical Judges then seated, by the penitent, led there, bareheaded, barefoot, and coatless, from St. Michael's church.

* If. 47.

[III. *English Text of public confession of guilt on the second charge.*]

Richard Pyckard admits posing, with intent to cheat men, as a well-known notary named Roger Jordan.

Also I haue falsly feyned my selff to be a notary and called my selff Roger Iordan, the which is knowen for a notary (where that my name is Richard Pycarde) to thentent for to deceue men of their goodes agayn the lawe & good conscience.

[IV. *Latin Text of decision of the Court.*]

The Court deprived Richard Pyckard of his privilege of practising as a proctor in the Consistory Court of Lincoln.

Et confessione huiusmodi per dictum Ricardum Pyckard 5 perfectam, idem Magister Ricardus halle (Officialis antedictus), tam de mandato domini lincolniensis Episcopi, quam vigore et auctoritate Officij sui huiusmodi, ipsum Ricardum pyckard ab officio & dignitate officij procuratoris generalis dicte Curie consistorij, qua prius fungebatur, priuauit et degradauit: presenti- 10 bus ibidem, Magistro Willelmo Wytham, Johanne Boterwyk, Johanne Hare, et Tyssington¹, et aliis.

[V. *Latin² Record of the bribes received.*]

To induce him to this unlawful act, Richard Pyckard received (a) a bond of £20 from William Rydding,

Idem Ricardus coram Magistro Thoma legier, willhelmo witham, & bug, tyssington,³ & laurencio [Norrys], confessus fuit quod recepit obligacionem xxli. a Willhelmo Ryddyng 15 commoranti cum Newport de Ryby,⁴ ad effectum quod dominum Robertum Cade in beneficio de Aylesby faceret intitulari, et habuit xxj. quarteria brasii et oues, ad valorem illius summe, & retradidit⁵ ei obligacionem.

(b) a bond of £40 from Robert Cade.

Item, idem Ricardus habet aliam obligacionem xlii., in qua 20 dictus dominus Robertus Cade prefato Ricardo est obligatus, confectam ante induccionem pretensam ad effectum ut in eadem ecclesia debeat intitulari.

[VI. *Latin Record of how the fraud was effected.*]

The procedure was—
First, a letter was abstracted and replaced by a forged letter;

Idem Ricardus confessus fuit, quod aperuit litteram Magistri Alexandri, & aliam confici fecit, quam tradidit Magistro Wytham, 25

¹ John Tyssington, note 2, p. 112.

² In Latin, apparently because made to the officers of the Court, and not publicly recited in the church in open Court.

³ John Bugg and John Tyssington, note 1, p. 113.

⁴ Riby, next parish to Aylesby to the west.

⁵ i. e. the bond was cancelled on payment of 21 quarters of malt, and a sufficient number of sheep to make up the balance.

vt tam dominum lincolniensem quam Magistrum Alexandrum, Capitulum, & wytham de ecclesia predicta deciperet.

Item, confessus est quod recepit litteras institutionis & inductionis clausas in pixide, ad deferendum & deliberandum Magistro Alexandro, quam quidem pixidem fregit & aperuit, & per eas fecit dictum dominum Robertum Cade in ipsa ecclesia intrudi; & quod nunquam huiusmodi litteras nec pixidem Magistro Alexandro tradidit vt debuit.

Second,
The bishop's
mandate was
stolen, and
never came to
the arch-
deacon's hand.

XVII: Will, 1459, of Henry Philip, alderman of Oxford.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 50.

* In the Name of oure lord god, Amen. The x. day of 10 October,
10 October the yere of our lord M^cccc lix, I, herry Philip, 1459.
of Oxford, Alderman, hauyng good mynde and trust in god,
ordeyn & make my testament in this wyse.

first, I beqweth my sowle to the mercy of oure lord god my Burial in
maker and fourmer of noght, And to his blessed moder oure lady St. Peter-le-
15 saint Mary, and to all the company of hevyn, And my Body to Baily church,
be buryed in the Church of seynt Petres in the Baylly of Oxford Oxford.
vnder the Rode.

Item, to the Moder Church of lincoln I beqweth vj d.

Item, to the high Auter of the said Church of saint Petres Bequests to
20 xld.; Item, I beqweth to the Trinite Auter in the said church St. Peter-le-
A Masse Boke, a vestument, and A Chaleys, there I and my Baily church.
Wyff to be prayed fore, she to haue terme of her lyff the kepyng
and gouernaunce of them; And after her deceste, at her will
and discrecion, to remayne in the kepyng of
25 the Churchewardneys of sent petres.

Testamentum
Henrici Philip
de Oxonia.

Item, I beqweth to the Conuent of the frerys mynours of Oxford to comme to the Bequests to
said Church of saint Petres in the day of my sepulture to the Four
Dirige and Masse, v s.; Orders of Men-
30 Item, to the Conuent of the frerys Prechiers to comme and dicant Friars
pray lyke wyse, ijs. vjd. in Oxford.

Also, to the Conuent of the freres Carmys to say and pray,
vnder the same fourme, ijs. vjd.

Item, to the freres Augustin conuent, vnder the same fourme,
ij s. vj d.

Bequest to
Trinity Chapel
outside East
Gate, Oxford.

Item, I beqweth to sir Robert, prest of the Trinite withoute
the Est gate of Oxford, iij s. iiij d.

Item, I beqweth to the parson of the said Churche of saint 5
petres, beyng present at the Dirige & Masse, vj d.

Provision for
great attend-
ance of priests
at testator's
burial.

Item, to viij other prestes, being well disposed, there present
to syng and Rede¹ at the Dirige and Masse in the day of my
Sepulture, to euery of the viij. prestis, iiij d.

Testator's wife,
Alice Philip,
to be residuary
legatee,

And the Residew of all my other goodis, meveable and Vn- 10
moveable, I yeff and beqweth to Alys my wyff, she to dispose
for me and her and oure Childern, after her wyll and dis-
crescion, to the plesaunce of god and merite to oure soules.

and to have
the house-
property in
St. Peter-le-
Bailly parish,

Also, I giff graunt and beqwethe to Alys my wiff all my place,
with thappurtenaunce, that I haue in the pariche of seint petres 15
in the Bayly of Oxford (I-sett betwene the tenement of Benet
Stokys, Bydell, of the Est party; And the tenement that was
late Thomas Tanfelde, and now is Richard Spragett, of the west
partye) to haue and to holde the forsaid tenement, with his
Appurtenaunce, to the said Alys, to her heires and her Assignes, 20
of the Chiff lordis of that fee, by the seruice dew and accus-
tumed therof for euermore.

with full war-
ranty from
testator's heirs.

Also, I bynde my heires to waraunt the said tenement, with
all his Appurtenaunce, to the forsaid Alys my wiff, to her
heires and to her Assignes, Agayns all almaner folk foreuer- 25
more.

Executrix, and

Of this my Testament I make and ordeyn the said Alys my
wyff my Executrice alone.

overseer of the
will, named.

And Maister Thomas Whitfeld (in whom my trust is, and
hath be all way) I haue prayed to be ouerseer of this said 30
Testament, assistent and helper of her, and perfourmyng of this
simple my last wille (date herof the day and yere above said).

In wittenesse of this my last wille I haue put herto my seale.

Bequests to
the East
Bridge, and to

Item, I beqweth to the Reparacion of the Est bryg² of
Oxford, vj s. viij d.

35

¹ The testator's intention was
probably to give distinction to his
Dirige by having sufficient priests
to sing each a different musical part

of the service, and to read each a
different Lesson.

² i.e. now Magdalen Bridge,
over Cherwell; then, and for long

Item, to the Churchewerke of the same Churchewerke, vjs. viij d. St. Peter-le-Bailly church.

Wittnesse of this my said testament: Iohn Clerk,¹ now Maire of Oxford, William Blakbourne the elder; Iohn frankleyn, glasyer; William Daguale²; Richard Bustard; and other beyng
5 there present.

[*Latin Record of Probate.*]

Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram Reuerendo Proved, before John Chedworth, bishop of Lincoln, 27 January, 1459/60.
patre Iohanne, Episcopo lincolniensi, xxvij^o die Ianuarij, Anno
domini Millesimo quadringentesimo quinquagesimo nono: Et commissa fuit Administracio **Approbacio**
10 bonorum dicti defuncti Alicie Executrici, in **eiusdem.**
eodem testamento nominate. Et quia calculando idem Reuerendus pater Inuenit ipsam Executricem fideliter administrasse, Executrix discharged, accounts having been rendered.
ipsam ab officio suo³ dimisit quietam.

XVIII: Will, 1465, and Codicil of Richard Welby, of Moulton (near Spalding), Lincolnshire.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 72 bk.

[*I. English Text of Will.*]

* **I**n the Name of the fader sone and holy goste, I, Richard 1465.
15 **I** Welby, the secund day of August, beyng in hole mynde, make my testament in maner that folows:

first, I beqweth my sowle to the moste eternall god that made Burial in choir of St. Katherine's chapel, Moulton.
it and with his bitter passion redemyd it and to oure lady seint Mary and to all the felaship of hevyn; my body to be buried
20 in seint katerin qwere.

after, the sole approach to Oxford from London and intervening country.

* lf. 72 bk.

¹ Wood's *City of Oxford*, iii. 23.

² William Dagville, owner of a most ancient Oxford hostelry, in his time called 'Dagville's Yn,' identified by Anthony Wood with 'the Mitre Inn', but now supposed to have stood further west, on the site of the present market.

³ An executor, or executrix, at probate of the will, had to enter

into bond (with one or more sureties), to the Ecclesiastical Court, for the due discharge of the will which he or she sought to administer. This bond was formally cancelled when the accounts were presented to the Court, and passed. The records of such bonds, and discharges from them, occupy a very large space in the Registers of Archdeacons, and other Church Dignitaries, who (in their several districts) had control of probate and administration of wills.

Bequests to that chapel; to the church of Weston (by Spalding); to Lincoln Minster; to St. Katherine's sisterhood; to the church of Farlsthorne. Bequest of a mortuary.

Item, x li. to the high Auter, pro Decumis oblitis; Item, xx s. to the kirk wark; Item, xld. to every light.

Item, to the kirkwark of weston, vj s. viij d.

Item, to oure lady werk of lincoln, vj s. viij d.

Item, to the Sisters by seint kateryn's, iij s. iiij d. 5

Item, to the kirkwark of farlesthorne, vj s. viij d.

Item, for my Mortuary my Bay fole that goth in to the marsche.

The Residue of my goodis I put in disposicion of myn executors, which shall be Ionet my wiff, sir Iohn Welby, Richard 10 Welby my sone, and sir Robert Swet—thei to dispose my goodis to the plesyng of god & to the helth of my soule.

[II. *English Text of Codicil.*]

12 August, 1465.

This is the last wille of Richard Welby of Multon, made there, the xij. day of the moneth of August the yere of oure lord Mⁱ cccc lxxv. 15

Request for many intercessory services.

ffirst, I wol haue cc. masses doon and al so many¹ dirigies for my soule, vpon day² (if it may be), and ellus al so shortly as thei may be don after my deth; And every prest or man of Religion to haue for synging of them, iij d.; Item, I wol that oon c. of the said Masses be said of the Trinite and a other c. 20 of oure blessed lady.

Bequests to Carthusians, for like services at Mountgrace, London, Sheen, and Hull.

Item, I wol that the iij. howses of the Chartirhowes haue every howse, for synging dirige and masse for my sowle, xls.; And, ouer that, that every prest of them to say a masse for my sowle of the which iij. howses Mountgrace to be oon (which is 25 content), The Chartirhowes at london a nother, the Chartirhowse at Shene, & the Chartirhowse at hull.

Intercessory services in Multon church.

Item, I wol haue ij. prestis to sing for my sowle in Multon kirk the space of ij. yere, every prest to haue for his salary cs.; And, ouer that, thei or ich of them dayly to say dirige, if thei 30 be disposed, for my soule.

General bequests of clothing;

Item, I wol haue c. gownes giffen, in holand³ and in other places where my lyflode lygges, to the moste poer men, withoute any favour shewed.

and of bed-clothes.

Item, I wol that ther be bought as many shetis and couer- 35

¹ i. e. as many (= 200).

² i. e. to begin upon the day of my death.

³ Holland (canton of Lincolnshire).

lectes, and thei to be giffen in maner and fourme as is afore
rehersted, to the somme of xxviij^{ti} markes. [£18 13s. 4d.]

Item, I wol that my dettis be payed before all other bequestis,
And if any man can prove that I haue had any godis of him
5 vnrightwisly I wol he be restored agayn.

Item, I woll that any mony that Breknok owith to me for Testator's
wolle, sumtyme bought by Thomas heire, of my ffader and me, father's will
go to the fulfilling of the last wille of my said ffader in that he to be observed,
bequethed to my ij. sisters part theroff, and the other parte to and two copes
to be provided
10 by ij. Copis to the said kirk of Multon. for Moulton
church.

Item, I wol that the Couenent of the Monastery of Croyland Bequests, for
haue giffen to them for doying of a Dirige and Masse for my intercessory
sowle, xls., And, ouer that, euery prest of them to say a masse services, to
(a) Croyland
of Requiem for my sowle. abbey;

15 And also, I wol that the Couenent of the Monastery of Spalding (b) Spalding
do in maner and fourme as is before rehersted, and thei to be abbey;
rewarded in lyke wyse.

Item, I wol that the Couenent of the Monastery of Bardney (c) Bardney
haue for doying of the same obseruaunce, xxvj s. viij d. abbey;

20 And also, I wol that the couenent of the Monastery of Stykes- (d) Stixwould
wold do syng a dirige and masse for my sowle, and thei for to abbey;
haue for their rewarde, xxvj s. viij d.

Item, I wol that the iiij. orders of freris in Boston (e) the Four Orders of
do the same obseruaunce, and thei to haue euery order, Friars Mendicant in
Boston.
25 xviij s. iiij d.

Item, I wol that myn Executours giff after my decesse, Yearly (for six years)
yerly, by the space of 6 yer, xij. gownes of ffirce for my charity of clothing.
sowle.

Item, I wol, as for my land, that my feoffies suffer myn
30 Executours to entir in all the Meses landes and tenementes
within holand that thei haue to my vse within holand;
and, ouer that, halsted, with thappurtenaunce, Carleton
and other townes longing to the said halsted in those
parties, thei to receyue the profutes of the same, payng
35 yerely to my brother sir Iohn xxxvj^{ti} markes at iiij. termes
of the yere, And also thei to fynde with the said profutes ij.
of my sones which I fynde at Cambrige, and other ij. that I
haue at home to the scole, as their naturell disposicion is
giffen to them, And my sone Morys to be fownde at london.

Executors to take
charge of Lincoln-
shire estates,
(a) in Holland,
(b) Hallstead, in Stix-
would parish, with
Carlton, and to pay
therefrom
(a) an annuity of £24
to testator's brother,
Sir John Welby;
(b) College charges of
testator's two sons at
Cambridge;
(c) schooling of testa-
tor's two younger
sons;
(d) charges of testa-
tor's son, Maurice
Welby, at London.

A chest in Croyland abbey is to be provided to store up surplus income of testator's estates till all his children are of full age, and the whole income of Earlsthorpe manor for 5 years.

Richard Welby, testator's son, is to have Winthorpe estate at once.

Provisions for testator's widow.

Moulton manor is to go to testator's widow for her life-term, if she choose to live there, otherwise to testator's son, Richard Welby.

Testator's son, Richard Welby, is ultimately to have all the estates which testator inherited from his father; and is to have Earlsthorpe manor at once.

Assignment of estates and benefices to younger sons:

(a) Hallstead to Maurice Welby or John Welby;

(b) Gedney vicarage, or else lands in Gosberton, Quadring, and Spalding

parishes, to John Welby;

Item, I wol that a Chist be ordeyned, with ij. lokkes & ij. kayes, and set in the Abbey of Croyland, the Abbot for to haue j. kay, & myn executours the other; And the ouerpluse that comynth yerely of the said lyvelod to be put in the said chiste, and this to be continued to all my Childern comme to playne¹ 5 age, And all the Issuez & profutes of the maner of ffarlesthorp to be put in the same chist by the space of v. yer.

Item, I wol that my feoffies suffer Richard my son to entir in Wynthorp, immediately after my decesse, with all thappurtenaunce.

10

Item, I wol that, if my wyff can fynde sufficient sewerty to myn executours that she shall nevir haue housbond after my decesse, that thanne she be my chieff executrix; and ellus to be noon, nor to haue no more but her Ioynter and the oon halff of my stuff of howshold (except plate and that Napery that I 15 bought of the Executours of my lord Cromwell²: wich³ Napery I wol be sold: it cost me xx^{ti} markes,⁴ & I had it as it was preyssed).

Item, I wol that, if my wyff wol not dwelle in my place & kepe housholde, that than Richard, my sone, inmediately after 20 my decesse, haue the said place & all the landis & tenementes that I haue in Multon by the decesse of my fader.

And, ouer that, when all my Childer that be lyvyng comme to theire playne age that thanne my feoffies make astate to the said Richard in all my landis & tenementes that I had by my fader. 25

And as for ffarlesthorp, to the said Richard my sone, not bydinge * the age of the said Child.

Item, I wol that Morys, and⁵ my feoffies se that he wol thryue & be vertuously disposed, haue halsted to him & to his heirs; And ellus Iohn my sone to haue it, in like wyse, if Iohn be no 30 prest.

And if he be a prest, he to be presented, when it fallith, to the Churche of gedney; And if he haue not halsted, nor be no prest, that then he haue a Mese in Gosberkirk called Belneys,⁶ with all other landis & tenementes that I haue in the same 35

* If. 73.

¹ = (French) *plein*.

² Ralph de Cromwell, 3rd baron Cromwell (of Tattershall, co. Linc.),

died (without issue) 1455.

³ wich = which.

⁴ = £13 6s. 8d.

⁵ and = if.

⁶ Now Belnie, in Gosberton parish.

Towne, And also the ij. saltcotys that I haue in quadring, with a Cotage that I purchased in Spaldyng, to him and to his heiry.

Item, I wol that Maister Thomas my sone be presented to the Church of Pynchebek, when it fallyth.

5 Item, I wol that William my sone, if he haue not all that lyuelod that my lord of wynchester¹ hath in Saltfletby (other ellus al so good by his lordship), that then he haue Wynthorp, to him & to his heiry, when he comyth at his playn age.

Item, I wol that Robert my sone (if Iohn be a prest) haue all to those landis & tenementes beqwethen to the said Iohn, And (if Iohn be no prest) he to haue the said benefice of Gedney.

Item, I wol that Roger my sone haue my mese in Quadryng, with all other landis that I haue in the same Towne, except before beqwethed; And, ouer that, Barnewell, with thappur-
15 tenaunce, and all those landes & tenementes that I purchased of Thomas Erle & of Richard Barbour of Boston, And the landis that I purchased of Thomas Skirbek in Multon & of Coker in Whaplode & of Tyryngton in flete, to him & to his heiry.

Item, I wol that Richard my sone haue my saltcote that
20 I haue made in Multon, to him & to his heiry.

Item, in case that Iohn haue halsted, that than Roger haue those landis & tenementes to Iohn beqwethed & his owne bequest also, so that Robert be a prest; and ellus Robert to haue that parte beqwethed to Iohn in Gosberkirk & quadring.

25 Item, I wol that euery Child haue xlii. of monye when he comme at his playne age, And that all the goodis leide in the Chist afore said, before thabbot of the said place and myn Executours, be euenly devyded among my said Childern, except the eldist.

30 Item, that Richard haue all maner stuff perteyning to householdry, as hors, carte, plough, with all theire apparelles; And also xij. kye & bulles.

Item, I wol that the other halff of my stuff be euenly devyded among my Childern, provided alway that if my eldist sone wol
35 by any parte theroff, that he haue it, giffing therfore as it is preyssed to him that owth² hit.

(c) Pinchbeck vicarage to Thomas Welby;
(d) an estate at Saltfletby, or else Wynthorp manor, to William Welby;

(e) contingent reversion to one of alternatives in John Welby's portion to Robert Welby;

(f) lands in Quadring, Barnwell estate, and lands in Boston, Moulton, Whaplode, and Fleet, to Roger Welby.

Richard Welby to have the salt-work at Moulton. Further provision for Robert Welby.

Money bequests to each of testator's children.

Bequest of live and dead stock to testator's son, Richard Welby, and to testator's other children.

¹ William de Waynflete, bishop of Winchester: Richard Welby was perhaps negotiating with him to buy

this estate from him, to settle it on William Welby.

² sic: ? = 'owneth.

Regulations
for the estates
in case of the
death under
age of any of
testator's sons.

Item, I wol if Richard dye (as god forbede) that then his brother that hath halsted haue that that is beqwethed; And halsted to go to him that is next in descender; And so, in lyke wyse, if any of them dye, it remayne to his brother in descendyng, not resortyng so that oon haue not ij. partes; And if all 5 dye except the eldyest, all to resorte to him, he forto haue it to him and to his heyris.

Bequest of
ornaments
of testator's
chapel.

Executors
have power to
disinherit
any of testa-
tor's sons.

Item, I wol that my eldest sone haue all the stuff of my Chapell, except plate and the hole vestument of Sateyn figury.

Item, in case that my Executours & feoffies se that any of 10 my Childer to whom any thing I haue beqwethed to, wille not thryve nor be vertuose, that then his parte to be taken fro him, and to be giffen to him that wol thryve, hauyng regard to noon.

Provisions for
keeping of tes-
tator's obit-
day.

Item, I wol that myn Executours kepe vp my yereday and my Auncestours, aslong as thei haue the profet of my lyvelod (And 15 after that my heire to kepe it vp), spending at my yereday, xx s.

Disposal of
testator's
silver plate.

Item, I wol haue all my plate leid in the said Chist at Croyland, there to be kept to my Childern *comme* at playn age, if case any purchase¹ falle, And if myn Executours can make any purchase to the valour of v. or vj. c. markes² that then the said 20 plate by them to be sold to pay for the said purchase, And that so purchased to be giffen among my Childern where as moste nede is; And in case ther can noon be goten or³ thei come at playn age, that then my plate to be devyded amonge my childern after there age by there discrecion, hauyng a speciall 25 ye to my eldist sone.

Bequests to
female rela-
tives.

Item, I wol my Naunte haue, xx s.; my sister haugh, xx s.; my sister Braunche, xx s.

Bequests to
executors.

Item, I wol that euery executour have v. markes⁴ for his labour; And when he laboreth anything aboute me, for to haue 30 for his costes, and to take for his labour, after his discrecyon; And that myn Executours onys in the yere take accomptes of the bayly.

Bequests to
servants.

Item, that euery yoman that I haue, haue a Iak & Salet & his hole yere wages; Item, that Solhed haue xls. and my horse 35 I ride vpon and oon of my gownes; Item, that Sargeaunt haue xxvj s. viij d. & j. horse of my stabull &c.

¹ Opportunity of buying land.

² or = before.

³ £43 6s. 8d. or £52.

⁴ £3 6s. 8d.

[III. *Latin Text of Probate.*]

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum, vna cum codicillo Proved, 1465,
 eidem annexo, coram Reuerendo patre,
 domino Iohanne, lincolniensi episcopo, **Approbacio eiusdem**
 in Castro suo de Sleaford; & commissa **testamenti cum**
 5 fuit administracio executoribus in eodem **codicillo.**
 nominatis (domino Iohanne welby duntaxat excepto) viz.¹ [. . .]
 die mensis [. . .] Anno domini Millesimo cccc lx quinto; &
 iurati sunt; & habent acquietanciam.²

and executors
discharged.

**XIX: Affray, 1468, in the churchyard of Grantham,
 Lincolnshire, with proceedings thereon.**

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 91. The date is apparently the last days of December, 1468. The greater part of the narrative is in Latin, of which only a summary is here given. For this summary I am responsible.

Ordinary cases of breach of peace and assault were dealt with, in most parishes, by the leet-courts of the several manors, and, in most municipalities, by the borough magistrates. But, if the altercation took place in a church or a churchyard, the case passed out of the jurisdiction of any civil court, and came before the Ecclesiastical Court, generally that of the Archdeacon. Too frequently these cases were trivial matters that could have been smoothed over without legal procedure, except for the apparitor's³ keen search for fees. To illustrate this Grantham case, from later years, I give a few (hitherto unpublished) notices of such cases, from the official minute-books of the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex.

15 July, 1591, in a Court of the Archdeacon of Essex held in Prittlewell church, Thomas Peerse, of All Saints, Maldon, was indicted, at the instance of the Churchwardens there, because he 'brake the pease and made a blood-shedd vpon Ralph tiler in the church of All Sainctes in the time of the sermon'.

Peerse brought a certificate from Robert Palmer, vicar of All Saints, Maldon, that 'there was a lewde and vngratious boye that, in the tyme of the sermon, did disturbe the people; and Thomas Peerse, sytting neare him, did gyve him a stroke vpon the cheeke, after which the boye was quiett'.

Thomas Peerse offered 'to make faithe that he did not strike the boye anie other wise, nor in other manner, nor vpon anie other intende'.

¹ Day and month not inserted.

² Note 3, p. 119.

³ Clark's *Shirburn Ballads* (1907), p. 306.

Peerse was sentenced to pay 8*d.* to the poor, and excommunicated until further order.

15 January, 1591, in the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex held at Romford, Richard Fynson of Loughton appeared to answer a charge of striking John Monday in Loughton churchyard on Sept. 28, 1591. He admitted that 'in gest and sport and not upon any collar or anger, he did tripp vpp his heeles, as he was sytting vpon the Church rayles'. He was ordered to confess publicly, before the minister and the congregation, 'that he hath vnorderly behaued himselfe', and to pay 12*d.* to the poor of the parish.

3 June, 1592, in his Court held at Great Baddow, the Archdeacon of Essex had before him five parishioners of South Hanningfield, Essex, on a charge of scolding and brawling in the churchyard there. Henry Sowche admitted that he had used some words of strife (being moved thereto), but now they are agreed and all things are quiet, and no contention restethe amongst his neighbors. For his offence, he was ordered to make public apology in South Hanningfield Church. William Bennet's wife admitted having 'vsed some words of strife, and vnkynde words, towards some of her neighbors'. She escaped on payment merely of the Court-fee (12*d.*). Widow Holland was discharged, without paying fee, being very poor.

12 May, 1595, in the Court of the Archdeacon of Colchester, held in Saffron Walden church, Essex, John Waylett of Ugley, Essex, was proceeded against because he said to Robert Meade, church-clerk, in service-tyme in the churchyard that 'he was a pickthanck Knave to say that his boy (John Waylett) dyd wrastle in the churchyard in the tyme of diuine service at morning prayer'. Waylett admitted calling Meade 'knave' in the churchyard, but pleaded that Meade 'urged hym therto, brawling with hym in the churchyard'. On this confession, in terms of the statute, Waylett was excommunicated.

[I. *English Summary of Latin Narrative.*]

There had been a conflict in the churchyard of the town of Grantham, between Thomas Wortley, Corvyser, and Edward Singer, a minister of that church. It was presumed that the churchyard had thereby been polluted, and the matter was referred to the Vicar (Richard Dawe) and John Tyssington, 5 acting as Commissaries for the bishop. This Commission took the sworn evidence of Thomas Wortley himself, of Sir Thomas Wynneway and Sir William lempster (priests), and of William lempster and William Welbourne (ministers of the church). They found that Wortley had struck Singer violently with a 10 stick, who shed blood from his nose in no small quantity, in the churchyard. The Commissaries further declared that the churchyard had thereby been polluted, and excommunicated Wortley. On January 31, 146^g, Wortley confessed his deed

before John Chedworth, the bishop, in the house of Henry Curteys of Grantham; and took oath on the gospels to do penance as would be ordered him. The Bishop appointed Master John Goule, bachelor in the decrees, to absolve Wortley 5 from the excommunication which he had incurred. The penance was that Wortley should go with bare shins (*tibiis*) and feet at the time of the reconciliation of the churchyard by the bishop, and, humbly and in penitent wise, minister holy water, at the bishop's nod, to the bishop in the 'reconciliation' ceremony. On Purification (2 February), i. e. on the second day 10 after this verdict, Wortley was also, clad only in shirt and breeches, and carrying in one hand a wax taper and in the other a pair of beads, to walk humbly at the head of the procession which was to take place on that Feast, to kneel down 15 at the four corners of the churchyard or of the church (according as the weather allowed the procession to be in the open air or not), and to be disciplined by the rod by the curate who was in charge of the procession. After the procession was over, at the time of High Mass, Wortley was to be waiting in the baptistery, engaged in private prayer, and, when the offertory of the Mass was made, was to place his taper in the hands of the celebrant. Like penance was to be made on Sundays, February 7 and 14, at the time of the procession on those days. Further, on Saturdays, February 6, 13, 20, and 27, at the hour when 25 the market was fullest of people, Wortley, attired as a penitent, and with wax taper and beads, accompanied by the curate (in surplice and stole, and carrying a rod), was to walk round Grantham market-place, and at each of the four corners to submit himself to correction. On each of the four Saturdays, after the penance 30 was done, the curate was to make public declaration, in English, of the cause why it had been imposed. The formula to be used by the curate is as follows:

[II. *Full English Text of the Recital made by the Curate at the times when this Penance was done.*]

All Cristen people here assembled and gadred shall vnderstand that Thomas Wortley, here present, doth this his penaunce 35 Inioyned him by the Reuerend fadir in god Iohn, by the grace of god bisshop of lincoln, for this cause: ffor asmoch as the said

Thomas Wortley in the nyght tyme smote violently oon Edward Syngar, a minister of the Church of grantham, and drew blod of him within the Churcheyerd of grantham; Wherby the said Churcheyerd was polluted and of administracion of all sacramentes and sacramentalles suspendid, to the grete displeasure of 5 god, contempt to oure moder holy Church, and grete noyansse and offense to all this pariche; by occasion wheroff he stode accursed. And sithen full penitently cam byfore my said lord of lincoln & his ministirs iudicially sitting, and there confessed playnely his said defaute and trespasse, and submitted him vnto 10 my said lordis correccion; for which trespasse, he hathe in parte satisfied his penaunce, and is in will to performe the residew of the same. Wherfore he besechith all this pariche to forgiff him thoffence doon vnto hem in this behalff; And prayeth all yow people of the contre here at this tyme gadred to pray 15 god for him in the waye of Charite, etc.

[III. *Summary of Latin statement of further Penance.*]

In addition, the Bishop enjoined Thomas Wortley that on all the vigils¹ of the Blessed Virgin, for seven years following, he was to have only bread and water, beginning these fasts on the vigil of the Purification (146⁸/₉); and warned him peremptorily that he must continue to perform this penance, unless sufficiently dispensed, on pain of the Greater Excommunication.

XX: Petition, 1464, by the Cistercian Abbey of Bruern, in the county and archdeaconry of Oxford, to King Edward IV, to have again the impropriated rectory of Wootton, near Woodstock, formerly granted them by King Henry VI, but afterwards resumed by the Crown.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, ff. 240. The long reign of Henry VI (1 September, 1422, to 4 March, 146¹/₂) had been very fruitful both in benefactions to older secular colleges and religious houses, and in new foundations for educational or religious purposes. The recognition by Parliament of Edward IV on 4 March, 146¹/₂, followed by the Yorkist triumph at Towton, 29 March, 1461, threatened the very existence of all recent foundations, and the impoverishment of many older foundations, e.g. Eton College, and several colleges in

¹ There were eight such Vigils in July 1, Aug. 14, Sept. 7, Nov. 20, each year, viz. Feb. 1, March 24, Dec. 7, Dec. 31.

Oxford¹ and Cambridge, as well as monasteries. The Crown lawyers of the new sovereign seemed to be resolved to show in the law-courts the like mercy to grants made by Henry VI (now designated 'king of England *de facto* but not *de iure*') as his troops had shown in the field in their savage slaughter of the vanquished Lancastrians. The present petition is a representative of many hundreds of the sort which were sent up to Edward IV in these first years of deadly fear. It is not for a moment to be supposed that these details came within the King's personal supervision or added anything to the revenues of the Crown: they were processes which brought considerable fees to the law-officers of the Crown, and abundant payments to their underlings for transcription, sealing, and registration.

On 2 Aug. 1440, Henry VI, by grant under Privy Seal, gave to Bruerne Abbey the patronage of Wootton Church, with licence to impropriate it, but reserving £8 yearly to the Exchequer. The Pope and the Bishop of Lincoln would not allow the impropriation, and, on 18 June, 1445, Henry VI forgave the arrears of the £8 charge, and cancelled future payments, until the impropriation had taken effect.

The petition is prefixed to an Institution to Wootton, 18 Aug., 1464, on presentation by Edward IV.

[I. *Full Text of Petition in English.*]

To oure liege lord the king.

Mekely bisecheth vnto youre highnesse youre humble and
 continuell oratours, Iohn, Abbot, and Couent of the Abbey or
 hows of Brewerne in youre Counté of Oxonford, of the Order of
 5 Cistyeux, whiche haue but litell lyffloode to lyve by but only by
 husbondry, That where henry the vj., late kyng of this Royaume
 (in dede and not of right), hauyng consideracion of the exilite
 and pouerte of the saide hous, and theire grete hospitalite and
 contynuell keeping of dyvyne seruice that youre saide bisechers
 10 there had to theire importable costis, by his *lettres patentes*
 graunted vnto your saide oratours the Advouson of the parisshe
 Chirche of Wotton withoute Wodestoke, in the Counte abouesaide,
 thanne beyng of his patronage (in dede and not of right), Paying
 therfore yerely to hym, and to his heirs, in his Eschequer, viij li.
 15 Of whiche advouson youre saide Oratours were peisibly seised
 vnto the tyme that the same advouson, by auctorite of parlia-
 ment holden in the tyme of the saide late kyng at westmyenster,
 was resumed, So that from that tyme hidertoo youre seide
 Oratours had neuer eny profyt ne avayle by the same advouson.

Bruerne Abbey, very poor but most hospitable, and prayerful, had a grant from Henry VI of the rectory of Wootton,

on terms of a yearly payment of £8 to the Exchequer.

The Crown afterwards resumed the rectory, and it is still in the king's hands.

¹ Oman's *All Souls*, in *The Colleges of Oxford* (1891); Clark's *Lincoln College* (1898), pp. 20-2.

And, sith the begynnyng of youre reign, the saide aduouson hath been styll in youre gracious handys, and yit is.

But the Exchequer officials have continued to demand from the Abbey the yearly payment, and have piled up a grievous claim for arrears.

That, Notwithstandyng, youre saide oratours . . . in termely¹ called in issues in youre Escheker at westmynster, and dyuers tailles there stryken owte vppon the[m] for the paiement yerly 5 to yow of the saide viij li.; Wherthurgh youre saide Oratours been greuously vexed and sued, like to be the vtter vndoing of the saide pore hous, and diuine seruice & hospitalite there perpetuelly to cesse, withoute youre moste habundaunt grace to theim herin be shewed.

10

The Abbey prays the King to cancel this claim for payment of arrears, and to forbid any future claim for payment of the £8 yearly.

Please hit youre highnesse these premisses tenderly to consider, And thervppon of youre moost noble and benygne grace by your gracious *lettres patentes* in due fourme to be made vnder youre gret seale, to pardon, forgife, and relese vnto youre said Oratours alle arrerages claymed of youre saide Oratours of the 15 saide viij li. yerly, And youre gracious *lettres* vnder youre pryué seale in due fourme to be made, directe to youre Tresorier and Barons of youre saide Escheker, Charging and commaunding theime, and eueryche of theime, by the same that they at alle tymes hereafter cesse of calling of eny issues or stryking of any 20 tailles ayenst youre saide Oratours or their successors of or for the saide viijli. yerely or any parcell therof.

It also requests a fresh grant of the rectory, free of the yearly payment to the Exchequer.

And also, of youre more habundaunt and speciale grace, to graunte vnto youre saide Oratours and their successors for euermore youre gracious *lettres patentes*, in due fourme to be 25 made, vnder your saide grete seal, of the saide advouson, after the fourme, tenure, and effecte ensuyng.

And they and their successors shal continually and specially pray for youre most noble and prosperous reigne long to endure, and for the soules of youre noble progenitours, and in way of 30 Almes and charite.²

¹ i.e. at every term of payment. The parchment is frayed. A short word is illegible: possibly 'have bin'.

² This clause intimates that, in terms of the compact made by religious houses, &c., with their benefactors (*Godstow English Register*, E.E.T.S., 1913, pp. 182/10, 206/25), Edward IV is admitted to share in all the 'meritorious works' of Bru-

erne Abbey. On 27 March, 1519, Lincoln College, Oxford (*Vetus Collegii Registrum*, fol. 30), in bargaining with John Penny, bishop of Carlisle (died 1520), offered him 'a full share in all spiritual good deeds done, God allowing them, in All Saints and St. Michael's churches in Oxford and in the College chapel, by the then members of the College,

[II. *Latin Text of proposed grant to be submitted to the King.*]

Rex Omnibus ad quos, &c., salutem. Sciatis quod nos, de gracia nostra speciali, dedimus et concessimus, ac per presentes damus et concedimus, dilectis nobis in christo Iohanni, Abbati domus siue Monasterij de Brewerne, in Comitatu Oxoniensi, et eiusdem loci Conuentui, aduocationem ecclesie parochialis de Wotton iuxta Wodestoke in Comitatu predicto, que de patronatu nostro existit, habendam et tenendam eisdem Abbati et Conuentui, et successoribus suis, de nobis et heredibus nostris, in puram et perpetuam elemosinam, Et quod ipsi Abbas et Conuentus ecclesiam predictam appropriare, et sic appropriatam in proprios vsus suos habere possint, et tenere sibi et successoribus suis predictis, in Auxilium et sustentacionem Abbathie predictae, et pro diuinis seruicijs ibidem melius manutenendis, ac ad exorandum pro statu nostro Regio quamdiu egerimus in humanis, et pro anima nostra cum ab hac luce migrauerimus; ac animabus nobilium progenitorum et predecessorum nostrorum, imperpetuum, Statuto de terris et tenementis ad manum mortuam non ponendis edito non obstante. In cuius rei, &c.

[*Abbreviated English version of grant, as proposed.*]

The King, to all to whom these letters patent may come, sends greeting.

We, of our special favour, grant to John, abbot of Bruerne, in Oxfordshire, and his abbey, the advowson of Wootton parish church, near Woodstock, in Oxfordshire, which is of our patronage, for ever, to be held of the Crown by the abbey in pure alms. We give leave to the abbey to impropriate the church, and to hold the impropriation to its own uses, i.e. to increase its revenue and thereby make fuller provision for divine services in the abbey. The abbey is to pray for our welfare during our life, and for our soul's health after our death, and for the souls of our ancestors and predecessors. This grant is to override the Statute of Mortmain.

XXI: Agreement, 1509, by which Barlings Abbey, as rector of Reepham parish, Lincolnshire, grants the vicar an increase of yearly stipend for his life-term.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 240.

* **T**his Indenture berith witenes that thabbott and covent off the monastery off our lady off barlinges off thordre and by their successors for ever, ings, alms-givings, and all other namely, in masses, fastings orisons, spiritual exercises of whatever kind.' vigils, disciplines, studies, preach- * lf. 240.

Barlings
Abbey, Lin-
colnshire, as
rector of the
impropriate
church of
Reepham, Lin-
colnshire,
grants Robert
Wilkinson,
vicar of that
church, for
his life-term,
(a) additional
grain and hay;
(b) additional
rights of
pasture;

(c) additional
accommoda-
tion in the
rectory farm-
buildings,

subject to the
vicar's keep-
ing his part
of these
buildings in
repair,
the Abbey
providing
straw for
thatching;

(d) a yearly
stipend of 20s.

off premonstratenses, proprietaries of the parishe chirche off
Repham, with oon assent and consent, hathe graunted to ser
Robert wilkynson, perpetuall vicar of the foresaid parishe
chirche off Repham, in augmentacion off his
vicariage, ten quarters off barley, and foure 5
quarters off peyse, with oon loode off tithe hey,
yerey to be taken off the fruytes off the per-
sonage off the for-said chirche as long as the for-said ser Robert
shalbe vicar in the for-said chirche.

The said abbott and covent also hathe graunted to the fore- 10
said ser Robert Agystment,¹ without and with-in the pasture off
the fore-said Monastery, for vj. beastes (that is to say,² oxen, kye,
and bullockes and yong beastes), as well in wynter as in somer,
by all the foresaid tyme.

And moreouer the for-said Abbott and covent hathe graunted 15
to the for-said ser Robert oon litle laithe, sett in the north
parte off the personage, with an aisament within the closse off
the forsaid parsonage, with a free intrest³ and out-gate to his
laithe by the same closse as ofte and whenne itt shalbe necessary
to the said ser Robert or his seruantes during the forsaid 20
terme, whiles that itt shall nott be preiudice nor noying ne
harme to the forsaid abbott or covent.

And the forsaid ser Robert wilkynson shall reparell the fore-
said house, buylded with thackyng and walle, att his own propre
coste and expenses duryng the forsaid terme, And, att thende of 25
his terme, well and suffyciently repareld in thack and walles,
shall leve the forsaid house, excepte that the forsaid abbott and
covent shall fynde to the forsaid house thack for reparacion off
the forsaid house as ofte tymes and whenne itt neade shalbe, att
coste off cariage of the forsaid Sir Robert. 30

Moreouer, the for-said abbott and covent graunteth, and by
ther present wryting byndeth them to pay, xx s. off good and
laufull money off Englund to the forsaid ser Robert wilkynson,
all & euery yere, in the feaste off the Natyuite off our lord,

¹ = right of pasture in the ordin-
ary pastures, whether enclosed by
fences or unenclosed.

² Horses are certainly excluded,
as being more expensive animals to

pasture. Bulls are probably ex-
cluded as belonging solely to the
manor, and the rectory.

³ Read 'intress': i. e. entry.

duryng the naturall liffe off the for-said ser Robert wilkynton,
without eny furdre delay.

In witenes of all and euerychone off thise premysses, the for-
said parties, [eche] to the other, haue putto ther seales to thise
5 present Indentures: yeven the last day butt oon off the moneth
of Iunn in the yere of our lord god a thousand five hundrith ix 29 June,
and the reigne off kyng Henry the eight first yere. 1 Henr. VIII
(1509).

**XXII: Latin Will, 1526, and English Codicil, 1533, of
John Denham, rector of Barnack, Northampton-
shire, and Prebendary of Lincoln Minster.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 242
bk. and lf. 243. The will was proved at Oxford, 28 February, 1537. John
Denham had been a Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford, where he made
provision for a commemorative service.¹

[I. *Abbreviated note of the Will, which is in Latin.*]

* ¹ In the name of god, Amen. Anno a natiuitate eiusdem 17 November,
Millesimo Quingentesimo xxvj^o. festo sancti hugonis, 1526.
10 Ego, Iohannes denham, Rector de barnake, sanus mente et
corpore, etc. His body to be buried before the high altar of Burial in
Saint Iohn of Barnack, near Stamford. Barnack
church.

[II. *Text of English Codicil.*]

Memorandum, that the ffyrst day of August the yere of our 1 August, 1533,
lord god A thowsand cecce xxxij, in the presens of Iohn Codicil added.
15 cottysford, rector off Lincoln college in oxford; and Thomas
Rockes, yeman, dewllyng yn Lyndford² in Buckynghamshire;
and oper; I, Iohn denham, pryst, declared my testament ferder
in maner and forme folowyng:

ffyrst, I will that per be xxli bestowed to bryng me on erthe, Provisions for
20 at the monethe mynd, and the tewlue monethe mynd. burial, & for
month's-mind
& year's-mind.

† Item, I will that the churche wardyns and parischeners of
barnake haue xlii shyllinges towards the reperacions of the
Stypell; Item, to the mayntenans of the belles and the bell
ropys, vj^s viij^d; Item, to the mayntenans of the lygthes in the
Bequests to
Barnack
church, North-
amptonshire.

* lf. 242 bk.

† lf. 243.

² Great Linford, Buckingham-
shire.

¹ See Forewords, pp. 10, 11.

churche, vjs viij^d; Item, I geue for A peyre of vestymentes to the churche of barnake, xx^s.

Item, fabrice ecclesie Lincolniensis, iij^s iiij^d.

Disposal of
testator's
books.

Item, I will that all the bokes in my custody be distrybute by the discrecyon of doctor cottisford & christofer bell. 5

The Resydewe of my goodes not bequest I geue vnto christofer bell, my kynsman, to be-stowe for the welth of my sowle.

Executor
named,

And I make the same christofer bell my full executor, wittingnesyng doctor Cottisford, ser Launselot twynhome, and Thomas Rockes, with other mo. 10

XXIII: Inventory of John Asserby, 1527.

From the Lincoln Consistory Court Wills, Book 1520-31, lf. 59, 59A, 60. Part of this transcript had been lost from the E.E.T.S. bundle, but was most obligingly replaced by Canon Foster, F.S.A., Secretary and Editor of the Lincoln Record Society. This inventory will be included in a volume of Lincoln Wills which Canon Foster is preparing for the press. The will is dated 14 November, 1527, and was proved 21 December, 1527. Asserby is corrupted from Asfordby. The pedigree of Asfordby of Bilsby, Lincolnshire, is in Harleian Society's Issues, vol. I, 45-47.

* *Invitory off all the household stuff wych was bequethyd to be heyr-lomes to Andrew asserby & to the Ryght heyrlys off John Asserby wych was bequethyd by the sayd John Asserby whose soule Jhesu pardon.*

Parler.

15

ffyrst, in the parler, j. pentyd hyngyng off Canwes; Item, on long Saddell; Item, on Cownter off the lest sorte; Item, too gret carrod chysts; Item, on borden chare; Item, on forme; Item, on bordenyd bed stede; Item, on lyttyll chyst.

† littill parler.

20

Item, ij. bed steds, the on bordenyd, & the oper not; Item, on saynt John hede off Alibaster.

Chamber ouer the parler.

Item, on chyst with evidence boune with yren; Item, on plane chyst; Item, on bordenyd bed, with j. trundell bede; 25
Item, on yelow sperver off dornyx; Item, on payntyd hyngyng off canwes; Item, iij. thrawyn charys; Item, j. hole garnysche

* lf. 59.

† lf. 59 A.

off vesselle off the new turne; Item, on basyn and on euar off pewter.

halle.

Item, on grene payntyd hyngyng off canwes at the high dese;
 5 Item, on carvyd Cupbord *with* ij. awmbres and on slotte;
 Item, on carved long Sadle off wanescott; Item, ij. thrawn longe sadells; Item, on thrawn chare; Item, on fowldyn tabylle;
 Item, on forme.

Gallore¹ Chamber.

10 Item, ij. bordenyd bed stedes; Item, ij. Spervers off dornyx;
 Item, ij. new fether beddes garnysshyd; Item, on hold fether bedde *with* iij. bolsters; Item, on payntyd hynging off canwes;
 Item, iij. cownter poyntes of verde² warke; Item, on fustyan pillow and ij. other pillows; Item, on Redde couerlyd *with*
 15 byrde warke; Item, on grene couerlyd *with* verde² warke;
 Item, on yalow couerlyd *with* warke; Item, iij. holde whyte couerlydes;
 Item, iij. pare off blankyttes; Item, v. mattressys; Item, ij. couerynges off wholyn for tables; Item, on bancker for the halle; Item, vi. coschyns *with* bestes vpon them; Item,
 20 on fowldyn table.

Law³ parler.

Item, ij. pare off bed stokkes; Item. on payntyd tester for A bedde.

Botre.

25 Item, ij. gret bolle candylstykes and on lesser; Item, on lattyn basyn *with* A rose in the myddes; Item, on chaffyng dyshe, *without* horys; Item, iij. holde platters; Item, ij. holde dyshes; Item, on holde candylstyke; Item, on tabylle in the botre.

* Kytchyn.

30 Item, ij. gret pannes; ij. lesse pannes; on Mydlyng panne; on gret brasse pott; iij. lesse brasse pottes; ij. lytle brasse pottes; j. posnet *with* a stert⁴; on other *with* broken fete; on chauffer *with* a brokyn mouthe; on panne, *with* a sterte; Item, on lattyn ladelle; Item, on gret spyt; Item, ij. lesse spyttes;

* lf. 60.

¹ ? Gallery.

needlework for hangings.

² Verde = green. 'Verdour' was

³ sic: ? = low.

a textile product, possibly green baize, much used as foundation for

⁴ stert = handle.

Item, on byrd spyt; Item, on pare off lytylle yrne Cobberdes; Item,¹ on led, on mashe fatt, on gyle fatt, and on stepe fatt, with a kylne heire²; Item, on hold Cawthorn³; Item, on kymmylle,⁴ with a coueryng for saltetyng flesshe; Item, on polle axe.

5

Napre ware.

Item, ij. lyn towells; Item, on towelle lyke dyaper warke; on Napkyn off dyaper; Item, on lyn table-clothe off v. yerdes; Item, ij. harden table-clothes of ij. yerdes and dimid.⁵ the pece; Item, on herdyn Towelle off ij. yerdes and dimid.; Item, vij. 10 table napkyns; Item, on pare lyn shettes off iij. bredes⁶; Item, on schet for A woman that lyes in chyld bed; Item, ij. hed-schettes; Item, vij. pare lyn schettes; Item, on pece off lyn (for towels) of xiiiith yerdes; Item, ix. pare off harden schettes.

ffor the fyre herthe.

15

In primis, on pare off gret tonges, tynned⁷; Item, j. yren forgan⁸ for the fyre, tynd⁷; Item, a fyre skomer, tynnyd.

XXIV: Will, 1529, of John Aldridge, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 263 bk., and lf. 264.

* Testamentum Iohannis Aldridge.

22 July, 1529.

In the name of god amen. The⁹ xxijth daye of Iulij in the yere of our lorde god a thousande five hundrede and nyne and twenty, I, Iohn Aldridge, of bekonesfeld in the countie of 20

* lf. 263 bk.

¹ The utensils in this *Item* seem to be vessels for brewing beer in.

² 'i.e. the *hair* strainer of a malt-kiln, on which the malt is laid for drying. Such a strainer is now generally made of wire; and the steep[ing]-vat is called the cistern. In this steeping-vat, or cistern, the barley is steeped previously to being placed on the floor of the malting-house. In any modern malting-

house the cistern is a permanent tank, generally of brick.' This note was put in here by the transcriber.

³ i.e. caldron.

⁴ For 'kinnell', a tub.

⁵ i.e. half.

⁶ i.e. breadths; see p. 37.

⁷ ? with tines (= prongs): i.e. with the claws not solid, but shaped like the open fingers of a hand.

⁸ = (French) *fourgon*, i.e. poker

⁹ i.e. two and twenty.

Buckyngham, hoole of mynde and in good remembraunce beinge,
make my testament in this wise.

firste, I bequethe my soule to almighty god, to our ladye
saynte mary, and to all the hoole companye of heuen; and my
5 bodye to be buryed in the chirche yarde of Bekenesfelde afore-
saide. Burial in
Beaconsfield
churchyard.

Also, I bequethe to the highe aulter ther, for my tithes and
offerynges forgotten, iiij d.

Also, to the chirche of Lincoln, ij d.

10 Also, to euery light in the chirche and chappell of Bekones-
felde, ij d. Requests to
Beaconsfield
church.

Also, I bequethe to euery oon of my bredren and sustren
children oon shepe. Requests to
nephews,
nieces, and
god-children.

Also, to echeone of my godchildren, iiij d.

15 Also, I will that my executours, immediately after my decesse,
entre vpon all my landes and tenementes that I haue in the
parishes of Taplowe, burnham, and Beckonesfelde, and in all
my leases duryng my termes, as in sundre Indentures dothe
more playnly appere of the saide termes. Lands in Tap-
low, Burnham,
and Beacons-
field parishes,
Buckingham-
shire, settled
in entail.

20 I will also that *margerye* my wiffe haue, oute of my saide
landes and tenementes, yerely duringe hir liffe, xiiij s. iiij d.
sterling.

And after hire decesse, I will that all my saide landes and
tenementes hooly remayne to Iohn Aldridge my sone, and to his
25 heires, att the age of xxiiij. yeres.

I will that my executours and feoffes doo suffre Iohn my sone
peaseablye to entre into all my saide landes and tenementes,
withoute any maner Interruption or delaye, paynge to *margerye*
my saide wiffe yerely as aforesaide xiiij s. iiij d. duryng hir
30 liffe.

And iff itt happen that Iohn my sone decesse withoute heyres
of his bodie laufully begotten, livyng the other my children,
then I will that all the foresaide landes and tenementes to be
equally deuyded emonges my children livinge.

35 And if itt happen that all my saide children decesse, then
I will that all my fore saide Landes and tenementes maye be
equally deuyded emonges the children of my brodre Rauff
Aldridge and * William Aldridge.

Bestowal of
testator's
personalty.

Also, I will that myn executours entre vpon all my goodes moveable, to and for the intente of performauce of my will as hereafter foloweth; And also to perceiue [and] receive all maner my rentes, reuercions, revenues, and debttes to me owinge by any maner persone or persones. 5

Also, I will (after my debttes and funeralles paied and my will fulfilled) I give and bequethe to margerye my wiffe the oon halffe of my moveable goodes.

And the other halffe I will itt maye be equally devyded and savelly kepte by myn executours to the vse of all my children, 10 therwith to see them guydedy (and as well the childe that my wiffe goeth with-all as other), vnto the tyme that they be att lawfull yeres of discrecion: Thenne they to enioye the reste of the saide moveable goodes, oonly excepte and allowed for suche chardgies for the guydyng and kepyng of the saide 15 children.

Iff any of my saide children decesse, livyng the other, then I wille that echone of them to be others heyre in all the saide moveable goodes.

Iff all my saide children decesse, I will that the saide goodes 20 to them bequethed (all maner chardgies and expenses allowed) to be bestowed in charitable deades and warkes for the helthe of my soule.

Executors
named,

To the performyng of this my testament and laste will, I ordeyne william Aldridge my brodre and Robart Dawbeney 25 myn executours, they to ordeyne and dispose as maye be mooste expedient for the helthe of my soule, my ffrendes soules, and all christen soules.

and Overseer
of the will.

Also, I will that Robert wallar be ouersear of this my testa- 30 ment and laste will.

I will that echone of myn executours and ouersears haue, for their labour and busynes, xx s.

Thise wittenes: Sir Richard Bolde (curate ther), Thomas Aldridge, Symon Irby, & other.

Proved,
14 Dec., 1535,
before John
Longland,
bishop of
Lincoln.

Probatum fuit huiusmodi suprascriptum testamentum coram 35 Reuerendo patre, domino Iohanne Liicolniensi Episcopo, xiiij^{mo}. die mensis decembris, Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxv^{to}, commissa administracione bonorum et debitorum dicti

defuncti executoribus in eodem testamento nominatis, in forma iuris iuratis.

XXV: Will, 1529, and codicil, 1533, of Sir John Digby, knight, of Eye-Kettleby, Leicestershire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 232 bk. to lf. 235.

[I. *English Text of the Will.*]

*** Testamentum domini Iohannis Digby, militis.**

IN the name of god, amen: be itt knowen to all men by thies ^{1 August, 21 Henr. VIII (1529).}
 5 I presentes that I, ser Iohn digby of Eketilby in the county of leicestre, knight, the first day of Auguste in the .xxj. yere of the reigne of our souereigne lord kyng henry the eight and in the yere of our lord god m^l. v^c. xxix^{ti}, ordeyn and make this my last will and testament, aswell concernyng thordre and dis-
 10 posicion of all and singuler my maners landes and tenementes wtt^hin the realme of englond, as of all my goodes and catalles that I haue wtt^hin the same realme, Calis, orelles where, in maner and forme folowing:

that is to saye, ffirste, I bequeth my soule to almighty god,
 15 beseching hym to accepte the same to his mercy; Also I will that my body shalbe buryed in the chirche of melton mowbrey, ^{Burial in Melton Mowbray church, Leicestershire.} if I die in leicestre shire; and if I die out of leicestre shire, then my bodye to be buryed ther as my executours shall thynk moost conuenient.

20 Also, I bequeth to the chirche of lincoln, iij s. iiij d.

Also, I bequeth to the highe aluter of melton mowbrey ^{Bequest to that church.} vj s. viij d.;

And I will that my mortuary be paied according to the ^{Accustomed mortuary to be paid.} custome.

25 Also, I renounce and forsake all other will or willes by me before this tyme made, and affirme all thinges conteyned wtt^hin this present wryting to be my last will and testament.

And, where I, the said ser Iohn digby, by my deade (bering ^{Recites terms of a trust created by testator as his} date the xxiiij^{ti} daye of october in the nyynth yere of the reigne
 30 of our souereigne lord kyng henry the eight), hath given and

marriage settlement,
24 October,
9 Henr. VIII
(1517),
by which he
granted life-
interest in
South Luffen-
ham manor,
Rutlandshire,
and in other
lands in North
Luffenham,
Kethorpe, and
Pilton, in Rut-
landshire, to
his wife
Sancha.

Confirms this
provision, but
with re-
mainder suc-
cessively
(a) to testator's
son Simon
Digby and
heirs male;
(b) to testator's
grandson
(John, son of
William
Digby) and
heirs male;
(c) to heirs
male of testa-
tor's son,
William Digby;
(d) to testator's
other heirs.

graunted and by the same deade confirmed to Iohn willoughby
of willoughton¹ in the county of Nottingham, Iohn harrington
of Exton,² george mackwourth of Empingham,² Euerard digby
of stoke drye,² Iohn toky of southluffenham in the county of
Rutland, Iohn brokesby off frisbury,³ and Iohn digby off olleby⁴ 5
in the county off leicestre, my manour of south luffenham, with
thappurtenaunces, in the county of Rutland, And also all my
manoures, landes, tenementes, medowes, lesues, pastures, and
other myn heredytamentes, with ther appurtenaunces, in south
luffenham, north luffenham, Sculthorpe, and pilton, To haue to the 10
said Iohn willoughby and other his said cofeofes, and to their
heires and assignes, for euer, to the vse of dame sanche digby, wiffe
to me the same ser Iohn digby, for terme of liffe of the same dame
Sanche, and after hir decesse to thuse of me the same ser Iohn
digby, myn heires, and assignes, for euer, ther with to perfourme 15
my last will and testament as by the same deade more att lardge
itt apperith, I will that my said wiffe dame Sanche shall haue
all the said manoures, landes and tenementes in northluffenham,
southluffenham, Sculthorpe, and pilton, for terme of hir liffe,
according to the said vse conteyned in the said deade. 20

And after hir decesse, I will that my sonne Symon digby
shall haue all the said Manoures, landes, tenementes and other
the premysses, in northluffenham, Southluffenham, sculthorpe,
and pilton, to the same Symon, and to the heires males of his
body laufully begotten; 25

And for defaulte of suche yssue, the remaynder to Iohn digby
sonne and heire of william digby, & to the heires mailles of his
body laufully begotten,

and for defaulte of suche yssue, the remaynder therof to the
heires mailles of my sonne william digby laufully begotten, and 30
to the heires mailles of their bodyes laufully begotten,

and for defaulte of suche yssue, the remaynder to the heires
mailles of the body of me the said ser Iohn * digby laufully
[begotten] and to the heires mailles of their bodies laufully
begotten; and, for defaulte of suche issue, to right heires of me 35
the said ser Iohn digby for euer.

* lf. 233.

¹ ? Woollaton, Nottinghamshire.

² In Rutlandshire.

³ Frisbury-on-the-Wreak, Leicester-
shire.

⁴ Welby, Leicestershire.

And, where I, the same *ser* Iohn digby, seth the making of the said deade of feoffement, to the said Iohn willoughby and other the said cofeoffes, of and in all the said manoures, landes, *tenementes*, medowes, lesues, pastures, and other the premisses, 5 with their appurtenaunces, in southluffenham, northluffenham, sculthorpe, and pilton aforesaid, haue purchased dyuerse other landes, *tenementes*, and heredytamentes, in northluffenham aforesaid, to me and to my heires in fee; And also haue other meses, landes, and *tenementes*, in Tikesore, Morcott, barrowdon, 10 Seyton, thorpe, and Pisbroke, orelles where, whiche I, the same *ser* Iohn, haue within the said county of Rutland, nott conteyned in the said deade bering date the xxiiijth day off octobre in the said nyth yere of the reigne of our souereigne lord kyng henry the eight, I will that my said sonne Symon digby shall haue, 15 immediately after my desesse, as well all the said meses, landes, *tenementes*, and heredytamentes by me soo purchased sith the making of the said deade within the county of Rutland, as well all other my meses, landes, *tenementes*, and heredytamentes, that I haue in the said county of Rutland, nott conteyned in the 20 said deade bering date the xxiiijth daie off octobre in the said nyth yere of the reigne off our said souereigne lord kyng henry the eight, to the said Symon, and to the heires mailles of his body laufully begotten.

Testator enumerates other lands bought by him, since the trust-deed of 24 October, 9 Henr. VIII (1517), in North Luffenham, Tixover, Morcot, Barrowden, Seaton, Thorpe, and Bisbrooke (all in Rutlandshire), all of which he now settles in entail on his son Simon Digby and heirs male, with reversion successively

And for defaulte of suche issue, remaynder therof to Iohn 25 digby sone and heire of william digby, and to the heires mailles of his body laufully begotten.

(a) to John (son of William) Digby and heirs male,

And for defaulte of suche issue, remaynder therof to the heires mailles of the body of my said sonne william digby laufully begotten, and to the heires mailles of there bodies laufully 30 begotten.

(b) William Digby's heirs male,

And for defaulte of suche issue, the remaynder therof to the heires mailles of me the said *ser* Iohn digby laufully begotten, and to the heires mailles of their bodies laufully begotten.

(c) testator's other heirs;

And for defaulte of suche issue to the right heires of me the 35 said *ser* Iohn digby for euer.

And I will that my said sonne Symon digby shall and may at his pleasour make or cause to be made astate for terme of liffe in possession or vse of or in all the said manours landes and *tenementes* in the said county off Rutland or in eny parte

but confers on said Simon Digby power of granting life-interest in all these

estates to said
Simon's wife.

of the same to eny wiffe or wiffes that he the same Symon shall hereafter mary, anything conteyned in this my will to the contrary nott withstanding.

Testator's
wife, Sancha
Digby, is to
have Eye-
Kettleby
manor-house,
in Leicester-
shire, with
buildings,
orchards,
yards, water-
mill, the park,
and other
appendent
lands,
for life-term.

And I will that my said wiffe dame Sanche, shall haue immediately after my decesse, all my Manour place, capital mesuage, 5 and mansion place, of eketilby in the county off leicestre, with all the housing belonging to the same, and all my gardeyns, orchardes, woodeyardes, and neeteyardes, waiter-mylne and mylne-holmes belonging to the same waiter-mylne, And also the parke (with the poles within the same), cranwell close, the 10 ueste leys, the ueste medowe on the west side of the same manour place, the este medowe in twoo closes of the north side off melton lane, and all landes, tenementes, medowes, lesues, and pastures in eketilby aforesaid, with all the hedges about and within all and euery the premysses from the este ende off Melton 15 lane to kirkeby bridge of the north side down to the river ther, to the same dame Sanche for terme of hir liffe.

Testator's
daughter-in-
law (widow of
William
Digby of
Lubbenham,
Leicester-
shire, but
re-married),
is to be life-
rented in cer-
tain lands in
Eye-Kettleby.
as her jointure-
land,
secured her by
her marriage-
settlement of
date 13 May,
15 Henr. VIII
(1523).

Also, I will that my doughtour Elene Mountague, late wiffe to my sone william digby of lubbenham (nowe decessed) and doughtour of Iohn Rooper (late generall attorney to our soue- 20 reigne lord the kyng), shall, immediately after my dethe, haue twoo closes in eketilby aforesaid, whereof oon of them is called the hall close, and the other close of them is called the fogge ffelde, with all the hedges about and within the same closes, to haue and to holde to the said Elene Mountague, for terme of 25 hir liffe, in * recompence off suche landes and tenementes to the yerely value off xx^{li} as the same helene is intituled to haue in Eketilby and Sysonby after my dethe, by reason off a feoffement by me (the said ser Iohn digby) and my said sone william digby and Iohn Wymerke made to ser Iohn diue, knight, and other, 30 in fee off all my landes and tenementes in eketilby and Sysonby to dyuerse vses, as by the same deade bering date the xijth daye off May the xvth yere off our said souereigne lord more playnly itt apperith.

Eye-Kettleby
manor and
lands, in both
cases, are to
revert to John
Digby (son of

Also, I will that all the manoures, landes, and tenementes, 35 medowes, lesues, closes, and pastures before appoynted to the same dame Sanche in Eketilby for terme off hir liffe, immediatly after the dethe of the same dame Sanche, and all the said

* lf. 233 bk.

landes, tenementes, medowes, closes, lesues, and pastures before testator's son
 appoynted to the said helene mountague for terme of hir liffe in William
 eketilby aforesaid, immediately after their seuerall deceases, Digby) and his
 shall remayne & come to the said Iohn digby, sonne and heire heirs male,
 5 of my said sone william digby, and to the heires mailes of his
 body laufully begotten;

And for defaulte of suche issue, to the heires mailes of the with re-
 body of my said sone william laufully begotten, and to the mainder suc-
 heires mailes of their bodies laufully begotten; cessively,
 (a) to said

10 And for defaulte of suche issue, the remayndre therof to my William
 sone Symon, and to the heires mailes of his body laufully Digby's heirs
 begotten; male;
 (b) to Simon
 Digby and
 heirs male;

And for defaulte off suche issue, to heires mailes of the body (c) to heirs of
 of the said ser Iohn digby, and to the heires mailes of their Sir John
 15 bodyes laufully begotten; And for defaulte of suche issue, to Digby.
 the right heires off me the said ser Iohn digby for euer.

And I will that the said Iohn digby, sonne and heire of my Land in Eye-
 said sone William digby, shall, immediatly after my dethe, Kettleby, and
 haue a close in eketilby aforesaid called the high felde, and all Sysonby
 20 my Manoure, landes, tenementes, and heredytamentes in Sysonby manor, Leices-
 in the county off leicestre, to hym and to his heires males of his tershire,
 body laufully begotten, are to be
 settled in
 entail on testa-
 tor's said
 grandson John
 Digby and
 heirs male
 with re-
 mainders (as
 above),

And for defaulte of suche issue, the remaynder therof to
 the right heires mailes of the body of my said sone william
 25 laufully begotten, and to the heires of their bodyes laufully
 begotten,

and for defaulte of suche issue, the remaynder therof to my
 sone Symon digby, and to the heires mailes of his body laufully
 begotten,

30 And for defaulte of suche issue, the remaynder therof to the
 heyres mailes of me the said ser Iohn digby laufully begotten,
 and to the heires mailes of their bodies laufully begotten; And
 for default of suche issue, the remaynder therof to the right
 heires of me the said ser Iohn digby, for euer,

35 to thvses, intentes, and vpon condicions hereafter ensuyng,
 that is to say, that the said Iohn digby, sone & heire of my said
 sone william digby, and all other in remaynder aforesaid of the
 said close called the highe feld and Sysonby, shall yerely from
 hensforth content and paye to george lacells of storton and to
 but subject to
 the yearly
 rent-charges

of £13 to
(? manor)
of £4 to
(? manor),
and other
conditions,

his heires and assignes xiiij^{li} sterling, And also to kyrton yerely
iiij^{li}.

And also, yerely, acquite, dischardge, or saue harmeles, all
the said manour, meses, landes, tenementes, and other the pre-
mysses before appoynted, to the same dame Sanche and helene 5
mountague, or to eny of them for terme of their lives, or for
terme off liffe of¹ eny of them, of and for all maner of rentes,
charges, and Incumbraunces, wherewith the said manour, laudes,
and tenementes, and other the premysses before appoynted to
the same dame Sanche and helene for terme of their liues as is 10
aforesaid, shalbe charged with, duryng the liffe naturall of the
same dame Sanche and helene or of the longer liver of them.

And also, to the vses, and intentes, and vpon condicion, that
the same Iohn digby, sone of the said william and his heyres,
and all other in remaynder of the said close called the highe 15
* felde & Sysonby afore said, frome hensforth peaseably suffre
the said dame Sanche and helene, and also my said sone Symon
digby and the heires mailes of his body lafully begotten, and
also peaseably suffre all suche my landes and tenementes in
claxton herby and Stathern in the county off leicestre, to be 20
vsed and bestowed vpon and to the fynding of a preste in melton
in maner and forme, as by this my will here after is appoynted
and ordeyned, without lett or interrupcion or disturbacion of
the said Iohn digby, sone of the said william, or of the heires
of his body, or of eny of the other before in remaynder afore- 25
said.

including
endowment
of a chantry,

under penalty
of forfeiture

and in case the said Iohn digby and his heires, or eny other
in remaynder aforesaid, doo not paye the said rentes, nor doo
nott acquite or saue harmeles the said dame Sanche and helene
and euery of them and the said landes and tenementes before 30
appoynted to the said dame Sanche and helene and to euery of
them, or doo lett or disturbe or will nott suffre the said dame
Sanche and helene and Symon digby and his heires mailes
peaseably to inioue the said landes and tenementes to them
before appoynted, or doo vexe or trouble suche persones as is 35
or shalbe seased of the said land hereafter to be appoynted to
the fynding of the said preste, or doo eny other acte or actes
to the disturbaunce or brekyng of this my will or contrary to

* 1f. 234.

¹ MS. reads, 'or'.

the same, then I will that my said [son] Symon and his heyres shall frome hensforth haue, occupye, and inioye, to his own vse, the said ffele called the highe ffele, and all the landes and tenementes in Sysonby aforesaid, during the naturall life of the
 5 said Iohn digby, sonne of the said william, eny thing in this my will here be-fore specified to the contrary nott-withstand-
 yng; And if eny of them in remaynder aforesaid doo disturbe the said dame Sanche helene and Symon or eny of them, or breke this my will, or paye nott the said rentes as is aforesaid
 10 after the dethe off Iohn digby (sone of the said william digby), that then the said Symon and his heires shall haue the said close called the highe ffele and sysonby aforesaid during the liffe off suche person in remaynder as shall disturbe or breke this my will.

15 And I will that all my gownedes of veluett, saten, and damaske, shalbe made in vestymentes and copes to be distrybuted to poore churches suche as my executoures shall thynk moost conuenient.
 Testator's finest robes are to be made into vestments for poor churches.

And I will that all the reuenues, issues, and prouffettes of
 20 all my landes and tenementes and heredytamentes in Claxton, herby, and Stathern in the county off leicestre, shall yerely for euer be bestowed vpon fyndyng off a preste to syng in the parishe chirche off Melton mowbrey in the county off leicestre att the aluter off our lady in the south side off the said chirche,
 25 ther to sing and pray daily for the prosperite and good helthe of me (the said ser Iohn digby, knight), dame Sanche my wiffe, and all our childern, while we be on live; and, after we been discessed, to pray for our soules and for the soules off my graundfadre and graundmodre, my fadre and my modre, and
 30 for the soules off Iohn bellers, and off dame katherine digby, william digby, Iohn stirley, Roos digby, and parnell asheby, and their children, and all christen soules for euer; and the said preste to helpe to serue and syng in the quere daily ther; And the said preste to haue for his styPend or wagies eight
 35 markes by yere off good and lafull money, to be taken out off my said mese, landes, and tenementes, in claxton, herby, and Stathern, with thappurtenaunces, in the county of leicestre, to be paid halff yerely by euen porcions, And the residue of the reuenues, issues, and prouffettes of the said mese, landes, &
 Testator's lands in Long Clawson, Harby, and Stathern, in Leicestershire, are to endow a chantry-priest in Melton Mowbray church, to have daily service at Our Lady's altar for testator and his kindred, and to help in the choir-service, at a yearly stipend of £5 6s. 8d.

tenementes, in Claxton, herby, and Stathern, to goo and be to the reparacion and mayntenaunce off the said landes and tenementes for euermore.

Any surplus from the chantry-estate is entrusted to the churchwardens of Melton Mowbray for special repairs on the chantry-estate.

And * iff itt happen eny parte off the reuenues, issues, and prouffettes of the said mese, landes, and tenementes in Claxton, 5 herby, and stathern, to remayn ouer and besides the eight markes appoynted for the said prestes wages and the reparacion and mayntenaunce of the said landes, I will that all suche parte as shall remayn, shalbe in the kepyng off the chircwardens off melton aforesaid for the tyme being, and for the maynte- 10 naunce and keping off the same reparacions whenne nede shall requyre.

Special services required of the chantry-priest, besides his daily offices.

And I will that the said preste shall ones in the weke for euer say masse off Requiem for the soules aboue remembred, and for all christen soules, hauyng noo lafull impedymnt; And 15 also wekely for euer the said preste to say masse of the name off Ihesus, hauyng noo lafull ympedymnt; Also, I will that the said preste shall say (att euery masse ¹ by hym doon within the said chirche) before the firste lauatory, ² *de profundis*, ³ with the collect *ffidelium* ⁴ *deus omnium* etc. for the soules aboue remem- 20 bred and for all christen soules;

This chantry to be in the patronage of the churchwardens of Melton Mowbray.

And I will that the said preste shalbe for euermore named by the chircwardens off melton aforesaid for the tyme being;

And the said preste nott to be absent ouer xvijth dayes in the yere; 25

Strict residence required of the chantry-priest.

And, if the said preste be worthy to be putt frome his said service, by reason of eny incontynence of lyving or mysbehauour by hym doon, or be nott resident vpon the same (noo lafull

Power reserved to remove him and appoint another.

ympedymnt hadd), then I will that the said preste shalbe putt from the said service and wagies, and an other lafull preste to 30 be putt into the same service in maner and forme aforesaid.

And if the said service att eny tyme hereafter be voide by

* If. 234 bk.

¹ See in Forewords, p. 13.

² *Lauabo inter innocentes manus meas* (Ps. xxvi. 6: I will wash my hands in innocency), used in the Ordinary of the Mass, after placing the elements on the altar.

³ Ps. cxxix: see *supra*, p. 14: repeated with special intention for the departed.

⁴ 'Of all the faithful, O God, the Creator and Redeemer': a collect special to the Mass of the Dead.

dethe, negligence, or by other meayne, by the space of xxj. dayes, Then I will that my next heire maile, within xxj. dayes next after eny suche voydaunce, shall for that tyme name and appoynte a suffycient and an hable preste to the same; And the same preste to kepe this my will (as is before said), and to haue like wagies (as is aforesaid).

If the church-wardens fail to exercise their patronage, the heir of testator is to appoint and control the chantry-priest.

Also, I will that all persones that maye be seased, or that hereafter shalbe seased, of all and singuler the premysses, shall doo and suffre to be doon, make or cause to be made, all and euery thing that shalbe for the mooste assurance and performance of this my last will and testament.

And I will furdre that ther be spent att my buryall and att my monethes daie fifty poundes of lafull money off Englund, and more, as my executours thynk conuenient by their discrecions.

Provision for funeral service and for month's mind.

And I will that my wiffe, dame Sanche digby, haue to hir own vse all the household stuff in eketilby, desyoring hir to be good to Iohn digby (the sone of william digby, my sone).

Bestowal of household goods;

Also, I will that my sone Symon digby haue all maner of stuff belonging to husbandry.

and of farm implements;

Also, I will that my wiffe dame Sanche digby haue the vse of all my plate as long as she liveth, and, after hir decesse, to be bestowed to my children, that is to say, to my sone Symon, to my doughtour Alice, and to my sone ser Rouland.

and of plate.

Also, I will that my seruantes haue forty poundes amonges them, as my wiffe, dame Sanche digby, thynkes best.

Gratuities to servants.

Also, I will and bequeth that Iohn digby (sone and heire of william digby) haue immediately after my decesse vj. oxen x. kye and ij^c. shepe¹ as they ronne, to putt in his pasture.

Bequest of live stock to testator's grandson John Digby.

and sole executrix of this my last will and testament I ordeyn and make my welbeloued wiffe, dame Sanche digby, to whome I commytt the hole order and disposicion of this my last will and testament, charging hir as she will answere afore * god to se itt treuely performed and executed, as my especiall truste is in hir.

Naming of sole Executrix,

And superuisoures hereof I make my sone ser william skevington, my cosin ser Everard digby, knightes; my sone ser Rouland digby, clerke; and my cosin Iohn digby off olleby: and for their payne takyng I will that euery off them haue xls.

and of Overseers of the will.

* If. 235.

¹ = 200 sheep.

Will signed
and sealed.

In witenes whereof, I, the said sir Iohn digby, to this my last will and testament haue putto my seale and subscribed my name, the daye and yere abouesaid ; Thies names folowing bering witenes.

Further pro-
vision as to
bestowal of
plate.

And where I haue appoynted before, in this my last will, 5 that my wiffe dame Sanche shuld haue the vse off all my plate as long as she shall liue, and after to be bestowed to my sone Symon and ser Rouland and daughtour alice, I will that my saide wiffe shall, att hir free liberte and pleasour, give and bequeth to eny person or persones thies *parcelles* of my said 10 plate, hereafter folowing, that is to say, a basyn and an ewer *parcell* gilt, iij. syluer pottes, a standing cupp with a couer gilt, twoo bolles with a couer, ij. gilt spones, a dosen siluer spones, a litle double salt, thre goblettes with a couer of the best, eny thing before bequethed by this my last will to the said 15 Symon, Richard, or Alice, to the contrary nott-withstandyng.

[*Witnesses of the Will.*]

Iohn digby, knight ; William asheby ; Rouland digby, clerke ; Iohn digby, off lobenham ; Richard brokesby, clerke ; Iohn digby, off olleby ; Richard butterworth, clerke ; Anthony brokesby ; William Mere ; henry barns, clerke ; Edward 20 mountayn ; Iohn Wymarke ; Simon digby ; Iohn campynett.

[II. *English Text of the Codicil.*]

Codicil,
14 May,
25 Henr. VIII
(1533), occa-
sioned by
death of sole
executrix
named in the
will,

And for bycause that dame Sanche digby, my wiffe, whome by my last will and testament I made my sole executrice, is departed and deade, I will nowe, this present fourtene day of Maij in the xxvth yere of the reigne off our said souereign lorde 25 kyng henry the eight, that my last will (whereunto this scedule is annexed), and this scedule therunto adioyning, shalbe in euery poynte fyrme & stable as my last will and testament, the articles concernyng the aforesaid Dame Sanche onely excepte, whiche articles I will, by this my present will, shalbe clerely 30 voide and of noon effecte ;

appointing
other execu-
tors

And that, by this my present will and testament, I ordeyn and make my sone ser Rouland digby, clerke ; my sone Symon

digby; and my cosin Iohn digby off oleby, to be myn executours and Overseers of this my said last will; and superuisours hereof I make my sone ser william skevington and my cosyn ser everard digby, knightes; and either of them to haue for his labour, xls.

5 Thies names folowing being witenes:

Iohn digby, knight; Richard Butterworth, clerke: Thomas Smyth; William Mere; henry barns, clerke; Iohn myllington; Iohn Wymarke; Iaspar hunt; Richard herdern; Iohn moresley; Iohn fullwood; william Crobbe.

[III. *Latin Record of Probate.*]

- 10 Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum suprascriptum, coram venerabili viro magistro Iohanne Rayne, vtriusque Iuris doctore, Reuerendi in christo patris et domini, domini Iohannis, permissione divina Lincolniensis episcopi, vicario in spiritualibus generali et officiali principali, Sexto die mensis Iunij, Anno 15 domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxii^o; Et commissa fuit administracio omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti, domino roulando digby, executori supranominato, in forma iuris iurato, Et admisso atque accepto per eundem, die et anno predictis, Reseruando potestatem consimilem committendi administracionem alteris executoribus, quum venerint eam recepturis.

Proved, before
John Rayne,
LL.D., Official
principal of
John Long-
land, bishop
of Lincoln,
6 June, 1533.

**XXVI: Will, 153²₃, of William Knight, of Norton,
Northamptonshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 231.

[I. *English Text of Will.*]

***Testamentum Willelmi Knight.**

In dei nomine, amen. in the yere of our lord god a 20 March,
Mⁱ eccce xxxiiij^{ti} in the xx^{ti} day of Marche in the xxiiij^{ti} yere 24 Henr. VIII
of the reigne of our souerayn lord kyng henry the eight, I, (1532/3).
25 william knight off norton, being in good mynde and good remembraunce, make this my last will.

Burial in All
Saints church,
Norton.

ffirste, I bequethe my soule to almighty god and to our lady saint mary and to all the holy company off heuen; and my bodye to be buried in the chirche of all halowes in Norton.

Bequests to
testator's
children.

Also, I bequeth to the mother chirche of Lincoln, viij d.; And to the highe aulter of norton, iiij d. 5

Also, I bequeth to Iames my sone x li.; To Anne my dough-tour, x li.; To besse my dough-tour, vj li. xiijs iiij^d; and to elizabeth my dough-tour, other vj li. xiijs. iiij d.; And I will that if eny of my said children departe before they come to lauffull age that then the porcioun of hym or her soo departyng 10 be deuyded emongest the other of my children then being in live.

Bequests to
testator's
father.

Also, I will that my fadre haue my landes for terme of his liffe; Also, I bequeth to my fadre a bedde with all thinges per- teyning; Also, I bequeth to my fadre a russett gowne furred 15 and ij. elles of blacke karsey.

Also, I will that my lorde abbott of sanct Iames of north- [ampton] haue the rule of Iames my sone.

Executors
named.

And the residue of my goodes vnbequethed (my dettes payde, and my body brought vnto the ground) to be distributed for 20 the welth of my soule and all christen soules att the discrecion of Agnes my wiffe and william kyng the whiche I make my full executoures.

The Abbot of
St. James,
Northampton,
to be Overseer
of the will.

Also, I will that my lorde of saint Iames off northampton be my ouersear that my will be performed, And for his payne 25 takyng to haue xx s.

hijs testibus: my lorde abbott of saint Iames of Northamp- ton; Ser Iames Ryder, preste, william kyng, and other moo.

[II. Latin Record of Probate.]

Proved before
bishop John
Longland,
5 June, 1533.

Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram Reuerendo in christo patre et domino, domino Iohanne, permissione diuina 30 Lincolniensi episcopo, quinto die mensis Iunij, Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxiiij^o, Commissa administracione bonorum et debitorum willhelmo kyng executori supra- nominato, in forma iuris iurato; Reseruata potestate similem committendi administracionem Agneti relicte, alteri executori, 35 quum venerit eandem in debita iuris forma recepture.

**XXVII: Will, 1533, of Robert Griffith, cleric, of
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln,
lf. 249 bk., and lf. 250.

[*Full Text of English Will.*]

***Testamentum domini Roberti Gryffyth de Henlye.**

In the name of god, Amen, of whom, and by whom, and by
the mereties of chrystes passyon, and by the intercessyon of
hys blessed mother our lady saynt Mary the virgin, the xxj. day ^{21 April,}
of Apryll, in the yere of our lord god a thowsand v hundred ^{24 Henr. VIII}
5 thertie and three, And in the xxiiijth. yere of our souerayn lord ^{(1533).}
kyng henry the viijth, I, ser Robert Gryffyth, of hendlye vpon
Thamys in the countie of Oxford and the dioces of Lincoln,
beyng of good and hole mynde and of parfytt memorye (Laudes,
prayses, and thankes be vnto allmygthy god), neuer the lesse
10 syke of bodye, make my testament and last wyll for the welth,
helth, and profytt of my sowle, my kynsfolkes and ffryndes, in
maner and forme as here after ensuengly folowythe.

ffyrst, I bequeth my sowle vnto my creator, maker, and
redemer, allmygthy god, vnto his blessed mother and to all the
15 blessed companye of hevyn; my corpes or body to be buried
with-yn the parische church of our lady of hendlye afore sayde.

Item, I geue to the mother church of Lincoln, iiij^d.

And to the hye aulter of the church of hendlye, iiij^d.

And also, I do geue and bequeth vnto Margery gough, my
20 kynswoman, in redy monye, lxxvj^s viij^d; And to Margaret gouthie,
my kynswoman, xl^s; And also, I geue to my brother Nowell
gryffyth xx^s. And also, I geue and bequethe all the landes,
tenementes, meades, pastures, and lesus, with all there appur-
tenaunces, sett, lyeng, beyng, in Caderelweth in the countie
25 of Dannarwan,¹ wiche did discend, happen, or come vnto me by
inherytance, purchase or otherwise, vnto Robert gryffyth my
sayd brother's sone, to haue and to hold, to hym his heyres and
assignes, for euer more; Also, I wyll pat my cosen Iohn goughe
of hendlye aforsaide and all other my feoffes, wiche now stond

Burial in Hen-
ley church.

Bequest to
Henley
church.

Money be-
quests to testa-
tor's relatives.

Testator's
lands in
(?) Carnarvon-
shire are to be
entailed on tes-
tator's nephew
Robert Griffith.

* lf. 249 bk.

¹ sic.

feoffed and seasede of and yn þ^e premysses to the vse of the performans of my last wyll, shall from hensforth be feoffed and stonde seased to the vse of the sayd Robert gryffyth and of hys heyres *for ever.

Executor
named.

And also, I ordeyn and make my sayde cosen Iohn goughe, 5 my sole executor of this my testament and last wyll, vnto whom I geue all the reste of my goodes after this my present testament and last wyll performede, he to dispose them after hys good discretyon.

In wytnes wherof to this presentes I haue set my seale, the 10 day and yere aboue wrytten.

These beyng present, Richard Massam, Wylliam loueles, willyam Smythe, with diuers other.

XXVIII: Will, 1533, of William Wolhede, of North Marston, Buckinghamshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 238.

[I. *English Text of the Will.*]

† Testamentum Willelmi Wolhede de Marston.

13 May, 1533.

In dei nomine, amen : in the yere of our lord god M^{ll} v^c xxxiiij^{ti}, the xiiijth daie off Maij, I, william wolhede, seke in body, 15 hole off mynde, doo make my testament and last will in this maner and forme folowing :

Burial in Marston church-yard.

ffirste, I bequeth my soule vnto almighty god and vnto our lady saint mary and to all the saintes in heuen, and my body to be buried in the chirche yard off Marston. 20

Bequests to images, and lights, especially in Marston church.

Also, I bequeth and give vnto the iiij. ymages off our lady in the said chirche ijs. & viij d.; and also to our lady off pyte, a shepe; Item, I bequeth also vnto the rode light, xx^d; and also vjd in waxe, vnto saint Iames; and <to> saint margarett and to saint katheryn, viij^d; Item, vnto saint Anne, iiij^d in waxe; and 25 to all halowes, vjd; Item vnto the highe aulter xx d., for tithes forgotten; vnto our hede chirche of Lincoln, iiij d.; and vnto saint christofer, iiij d.

Bequests of money,

* lf. 250.

† lf. 238.

Item, vnto mother bastarfete and hir doughter, iiij d. ; Also, to Iohn sauage, Iohn warde, Iohn mychell, Iohn wolhede, george shelley, william pope, william newman, and william squyre, vnto eche off thies before named, ij d.

5 Also, I notifiye and knowlege vnto myn executoures off oon burre off dunstaple,¹ detter to me of xx s., wylling to forgiue the oon halff, the other halff to be paied.

Item, I bequeth vnto the chirche off wotton,² xl d.

Item, I do giue vnto my doughter-in-lawe alice a kowe and of live-stock,
10 a calffe and vnto hir iiij. children iiij. shepe, and also to margarett³ doughtor a wenying calffe.

Item, I do give agnes and margaret ij. heckfordes⁴ betwene them ; Item, vnto eche off ther boyes ij. shepe.

Also, I bequeth to eche off my doughters ij. couerlettes and of house-
15 betwene them. hold stuff.

Also, vnto William Weuer and to Alice his sister ij lambe betwene them.

Item, vnto Iohn my sone, x shepe.

Also, I bequeth vnto eche off my doughters vj s. viij d.

20 Item, I bequeth vnto euery oon of my sones ij. heckfordes betwene them.

Also, I bequeth vnto henry my sone my house and land, he Testator's
payng vnto Iohn wolhede his broðre v li. : off the whiche house and
v li. 1s. to be paied att Mighelmas day tweluemoneth after my land to go to
25 departyng and att that day tweluemoneth the rest to be paied. his son Henry
Wolhede.

Also, I make Robert wodell myn executour ; and my wiffe ouersear to whome I giue ij. kyne.

witenes : ser walter done, Robert wall, Robert wodell, Iohn wolhed, and henry wolhede, with other moo.

30 Item, certeyn money whiche dothe remainy in a bagge I will ther be asmoche off itt spent as will honestly bryng me on erthe, And the rest to remainy to my wiffe.

Also, I will that henry my sone shall stand charged with Henry Wol-
the keypyng off his modre and william wolhed my seruante hede is to keep
35 duryng ther lives and att ther departyng to bryng them on erthe. his mother
and an old
servant, Wil-
liam Wolhede,
and to be
residuary
legatee.

my debtes & legacies performed and paied, I will the rest off my goodes remainy to my sone henry wolhede.

¹ Dunstable, Bedfordshire.

² Wotton, Buckinghamshire.

³ sic. ? [my].

⁴ heckfordes = heifers.

[II. *Latin Record of Probate.*]

Proved before
Henry Mor-
gan, LL.D.,
25 November,
1533.

Probatum fuit coram magistro henrico Morgan, legum Doctore, commissario generali Reuerendi patris Lincolnensis episcopi, xxv^{to} die mensis Nouembris, anno domini M^o quingentesimo xxxiiij^o, commissa administracione executori iurato, &c.

XXIX: Will, 1533, of William Gray, of Wolverton, Buckinghamshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, lf. 238 bk.

[I. *English Text of the Will.*]* **Testamentum Willelmi Gray.**

16 August,
1533.

In the name of god, amen. The xvjth day off August in the 5
yere off our lord god M^{ll} v^c xxxiiijth, I, william gray, hole in
mynd, seke in body, make my Testament on this wise :

ffirst, I bequeth my soule, etc.

Bequests to
daughters.

Item, I bequeth to my foure doughters iiij li. ; And, iff eny off
them departe, the goodes to remayn to the lengest lyuer. 10

Also, I bequeth to my fyft doughter ij. houses after the dethe
off my wiffe.

Also, iff my wiffe doo mary, I will that the childer goodes
shall remayn in Thomas Elyatt handes to the behoue of my
childer. 15

And, iff all the childer doo departe, I will my wiffe haue ther
goodes.

Also, I bequeth to the mother chirche off Lincoln, ij d.

Bequests to
Wolverton
church.

Also, I bequeth to the highe aluter off wolverton, A stryke off
barley for oblite tythes ; Also, to the belles, ij. strykes off barley ; 20
Also, to the torches, ij. strykes off barley ; Also, to the trynnye,
A stryke off barley.

Bequests to
god-children.
Executors
named, and
Overseer of
the will.

Also, to euery oon off my god childer, a stryke off barley.

Also, I make my wiffe and Thomas Elyatt myn executours ;
and Edward newman the ouersear off this my last will. 25

Thies witenes : Thomas Elyatt, Iohn Smyth, Edward
newman, with other moo.

* lf. 238 bk.

[II. *Latin Record of Probate.*]

Probatum fuit quarto nouembris, anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxii^{jo}, administracione commissa executoribus iuratis, &c. Proved :
4 November,
1533.

**XXX: Will, 1533, of Ralph Barker, of Stoke-Goldington,
Buckinghamshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 240 bk. and lf. 241.

[I. *Abbreviated English Text of Will.*]

* Testamentum Radulphi Barker.

In the name of god, Amen. The yere of oure lord 10 September,
1533.
5 I A thowsand ccccc xxxiiij, the xth day of september, I, Raff barker off Stokegoldynghon, &c.

Item, I bequeyeth to iche of my ij. chyldryn, xx^s.

Item, to the eldest of my ij. cheldryn my best cotte; Item, to the yonger my newe fetherbed; And, if either of them decesse
10 before suche age as they shalbe hable to haue the same goodes, then I wyll the oþer (beyng A liffe) haue bothe there partyes,

And, if they bothe departe before the sayd ayge, than I wyll my wiffe shall dispose all suche legacyes and bequestes as [she] shall thinke best to plesse god,

15 And the same margetet I make myne executryx, and geue hire the resydewe of all my goodes. Margaret
Barker, testa-
tor's wife, is
executrix, and
residuary
legatee.
† And make Raffe wotton¹ executor with hire, And for his labor I geue hym the best lambe I haue and in monye iijs iiij^d,
etc.

20 Wytnes: Master Iohn Aras, parson there, ser henry Smyth, ser Robert gelys, prystes; with other.

[II. *Abbreviated Record of Probate.*]

Probatum fuit iiij^{to} die nouembris, Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxiiij^{to}, administracione commissa executoribus iuratis, &c. 4 November,
1533.

* lf. 240 bk.

† lf. 241.

¹ Ralph Wootton's will was proved on same day as Ralph Barker's, p. 157.

**XXXI. Will, 1533, of Richard Lauford, of Sherington,
Buckinghamshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln,
lf. 238 bk.

[I. *Abbreviated English Text of the Will.*]

*** Testamentum Ricardi Lauford.**

13 October,
1533.

In the name of god, amen. The yere off our lord god
M^{ll} ccccc xxiiij^{ti} the xiiijth day off october, I, Richard
Lauford ¹ off Sheryngton, &c.

Estate to be
divided into
two equal por-
tions, one half
for benefit of
testator's
children,

Item, I will that, after my debtes be payd and my will per-
formed, that then all my goodes be deuyded euenly in twoo
partes, And the oon halff off my goodes to be praysted att the
discrecion off yndifferent men to the vse and prouffett off my
iiij. children and to be kepte in savff kepyng, att the pleasour
off my master and land-lorde (master Antony Catisby), Soo that
my iiij. doughters parte be in like porcion.

And my sone to haue preferrement in the same goodes, as my
master shall thynk best.

And, iff soo be that eny off my children doo dye or decesse or ²
that they come to the yeres off discrecion, Then I will that the
parte off the childe soo decessed shall remayn to the prouffett off all
my children beyng alive; And so, from oon to anoper, to the last.

And iff they all decesse before the yeres off discrecion, Then
I will that my Master and land-lorde (Master Antony Catisby)
shall haue the disposicion off all suche goodes and legacyes as
were bequethed to my children.

one half to
testator's wife,

And the other halff off my goodes I doo giue and bequeth to
margery my wiffe, soo that she doo kepe my children, and euery
off them, vnto suche tyme as they shalbe able to doo seruyce:

who is to be
co-executrix.

whiche margery my wiffe I make myn executrix, with Iohn
hoghton hir fadre; And Master Antony Catisby, ouersear &c.

witenneses: Thomas chibnall, william fisher, william everend,
and other &c.

[II. *Abbreviated Latin record of Probate.*]

Probatum fuit die et loco predictis, commissa administracione
executoribus iuratis, &c.

30

* lf. 238 bk.

¹ Letter uncertain, but more probably u than n.

² or = before.

**XXXII. Will, 1533, and Codicil, of Ralph Wooton, of
Stoke-Goldington, Buckinghamshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 241
and lf. 241 bk.

[I. *Abbreviated English Text of Will.*]

*** Testamentum Radulphi Wooton.**

In the name of god, Amen, The xxj. day off october the yere 21 October,
of owre lord a thowsand v. hundred xxxiiij, I, Raff wooton 1533.
of Stokegoldyngton, &c.

my body to be buried in the churche of Stokegoldyngton afor Burial in
5 sayd before the holy rode; and, for my buryall *per*, vjs viij^d. Stoke Golding-
ton church.

Item, I bequeyeth to the churche of lincoln iiij^d.

Item, to the aluter, for tithes forgotyn, xx^d; Item, to the Bequests to
Stoke Golding-
ton church.

Item, one lond to the towne to dyge stone for reparacyons of Bequest for
road-repairs
at Stoke Gold-
ington.

10 hys ways in the towne and fylde of Stokgoldyngton afor sayd
for euer more; Item, to the towne, for reparacyons and mayn-
tenans of the same, vjs viij^d, goyng owt off A certayn howse
and lande in stoke afor sayd callyd mors howse and lande for
euer more, yf the kynges lawes wyll suffer hit, or els for as
15 many yeres as the lawe wyll suffer, so that the ij. custabelles
for the tyme beyng euery good fryday shall deyll v^d in honor
and worship of the v. wondes of our lord to the v. porest folkes
in the towne. Bequest for
Good Friday.

Item, I wyll that euery yere, for euer, or els as long as the Provision for
yearly obser-
uance of testa-
tor's obit.

20 lawes wyll suffer hit, that there shall go out of the same howse
and land (callyd moores howse and land) to kepe an obite vjs,
so that there be v. prystes present at dyryge, and to saye masse
on the morowe; and euery of them to haue for there labor &
charyte, vj^d; And the curat, viij^d; with iiij. clerkes of the same
25 towne (yf there be any) or els other, And euery one of them to
haue iiij^d for the same diryge and masse; and the resydewe of
the same monye to be in bred, ale, & chesse, to the ryngers and
oper that wyll come to the same dyryge; Allway prouydyng
pat v^d of the same vjs be delt to v. poyre folkes of the same
30 towne at the same obite in the worshipec of the v. wondes of
owre lord.

Bequests for
repair of
bridges.

Personal
bequests.

Item, I bequeth to euery bryge with-in iiij. myles of Stoke goldyngton asor sayd one bussell of barley.

Item, to my mayde callyd Agnes fyssher, iiij. markes in monye & monye worthe, & vij^s to bye hire A panne.

Item, to Iamys wooton, one quarter of barley.

5

Item, I will *pat* my feoffes stand seasyd for the performans of my wyll.

Testator's
estate to go to
his wife for
life-term or
widowhood,
with reversion
to his son Cuth-
bert Wooton
and heirs.

Item, I wyll *pat* Sybell my wife shall haue all and singuler my londes And *tenementes*, with the *appurtenans*, in the towne And fylde of Stokegoldyngton asor-sayd and fylgrau¹ for the 10
terme of here liffe, so that she kepe hire Sole; or els I will the same Landes and *tenementes* be applyed to cuthbert my Sone tyll he *commyth* to his full age (the howse And the land asor-namyd and to that vse before bequethid, allwaye except); and, after the decesse and dethe of Sybell my wiffe, I will *all to 15
cuthbert my Sone, and to the heires of his bodye lawfully begotyn, ffor euer.

Failing heirs
of Cuthbert
Wooton, testa-
tor's estate is
to be sold
(testator's
nephew Fran-
cis Waren
having first
option of
purchase),

and [if] the same cuthbert my son shall (as god forbede) decesse and dye with owt heres of his body lawfully begotyn, that then I wyll that ffrances waren, my nephewe, shall haue 20
all and singuler my sayd londes and *tenementes*, with the *appurtenances*, for ever, payng for them as my selffe dyd bye and purchesse them, iff he be able (the sayd howse and lond callyd moores house and londes all way exceptyd to the vse before namyd and expressyd), And all the same and suche mony 25
as shall growe by reson of Sayle off the sayd londes [and] *tenementes* I will that hit be orderyd after this maner folowyng: That is to say, I will that sume honest prest shall syng in the churche of Stokegoldyngton Aforsayd certayn yers, after the discretyon of myne executors, And there to pray for my Sowle, 30
my wiffe's, my father's and moper's and benefactors', and all christen Sowles, hauing for his waiges v^{li} vj^s viij^d by the yere; and some part of the same monye I will that Some vertuous Clerke of oxon. shall haue for certayn yeres to pray for my sowle and all christen Sowles: And so my will is that my sayd 35
londes and *tenementes* shalbe vsid after this, if my sayd son cuthbert decesse with owt heyres of his body lawfully begoten.

to provide
(a) a chantry
for some years
in Stoke Gold-
ington church;

(b) intercessory
services by a
'Clerk of
Oxford'.

* If. 241 bk.

¹ Filgrave, Buckinghamshire.

Item, I bequeyeth to my cheld whitsaye,¹ xx^s.

Item, one Tryntall to be don one day at northampton at all the orders off frears, and Saynt Iohn's, and other.

Item, I geue and bequeyeth to Sybell my wiffe all and synguler
5 my goodes moveable, not bequethid, for terme of hire liffe, so
that the same Sybell kepe hire allway sole; And if the same
Sybell do marye, þen I will she shall haue xx^{li} in monye and
monye worthe, and my howse (with þe appurtenans) that
Thomas lydyngton now dwellithe in, for terme of hire liffe;
10 And then the resydewe off my goodes not Bequethed and the
same howse I geue and bequeyeth to cuthbert my Sone.

and of this my testament and last will I make my executors
Sybell my wiffe, Iohn waren my broþer, Iohn whittenell, and
frances waren; And to the same Iohn waren and Iohn whitte-
15 nell I geue for there labor to iche of them, x^s.; And to frances
waren, iijs iiijd.

These beyng witnes: Mr Iohn Aras, parson, þer; ser henry
Smyth, prest, Thomas hardwike, with oþer moo.

[II. *English Text of Codicil.*]

Item, I will that ser henry Smyth do syng in Stoke church
20 for my ffather and mother soules, my sowle, my wiffe's, and all
christen Soules by one hole yere, And to haue for his wayges
v^{li} vjs viijd, And hit to be don immedyatly after my dethe.

Item, to euery god chyld one Lambe.

Item, I will in lent next, every sonday, there shalbe deld
25 xv. q^r Loves² and xv. herynges to xv. poyre folkes in Stoke, and
lyk-wise apon good fryday, and þat day to v. the porest in the
towne v^d in worship of the v. wondes of our Lord.

Item, I bequeyeth to helpe to bye A cope to the church of
Stoke, xx^s.

30 Item, I will þat þer be kept one obit in Stoke euery moneth
this xij. monethes.

theis beyng wytnes: Mr Iohn Aras, &c., vt supra.

[III. *Latin Record of Probate.*]

Probatum fuit coram Magistro Iohanne Rayne, cancellario,
&c., iiij^{to} die nouembris Anno domini Millesimo Quingentesimo
35 xxxiiij^{to}, Commissa administracione executoribus iuratis, &c.

¹ ?my [god]child Whitsaye. There ' cheld'.
is a blank space between 'my' and ² Quartern loaves.

Testator's
month's-mind
is to be ob-
served by the
Four Orders
of Mendicant
Friars and
other religious
houses at
Northampton.
Personalty is
to go to testa-
tor's wife for
life-term,
or widowhood,
with re-
mainder to
Cuthbert
Wooton.
Executors
named.

Provision for
intercessory
services in
Stoke Golding-
ton church for
a whole year.

Dole of bread
and herrings
every Sunday
in Lent and on
Good Friday
in the year
after testator's
death.
Bequest to
Stoke Golding-
ton church.
Provision for
a monthly obit
there for a
year.

Proved,
4 November,
1533.

**XXXIII : Will, 1533, of William Emery, of Fenny
Stratford, Buckinghamshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 242
and lf. 242 bk.

[I. *Abbreviated English Text of Will.*]

*** Testamentum William Emery.**

22 October,
1533.

Burial asked
in Bletchley
church, Buck-
inghamshire.

Bequests,
partly for
intercessory
services, to
(a) Combe
abbey,
Warwick-
shire;

(b) Bath abbey;

(c) West Brom-
wich church,
Staffordshire;

(d) Wednes-
bury church,
Staffordshire;

(e) Moxley
church, Staf-
fordshire.

(f) Fenny
Stratford
church.

Executors
named.

In dei nomine, Amen : the xxij. day of october in the yere of
oure Lord god a thowsand v. hundred xxxiiij, I, willyam
Emery of ffenye stretford, etc.

my body to be buryed with-in the churche off owre blessyd 5
lady of blecheley ; And I bequeth to the same churche, iij^s iiij^d.

Item, I bequeth to the mo^per churche of lincoln iiij^d.

Item, to be bestowed at my buryall, xx^s.

Item, I bequeth to the Abbay of Come for A Tryntall of
masses to be sayd and song per for my sowle, my fryndes 10
soules, and all christen soules, x^s, and A kercher to make A
corperys clothe.

Item, I bequeth to the hye autler of the Abbay of bathe,
vj^s viij^d.

Item, I bequeth to the pariche churche of westbramche, 15
iij^s iiij^d ; Item, I bequeth for v. masses to be song at the
Scala celi, ij^s. j^d.

Item, I bequeth to wenddynbury where as I was boren, xx^d ;

Item, to the churche off mokkylson, xx^{ti} d.

Item, I bequeth to Margaret Emery, vj^s viij^d And a peyre 20
of Shetes ; Item, to walter Emery my Sone xl^s ; Item, to
Humfery Emery my son all my weryng gere, † and vj^s viij^d.

Item, to Saynt Margaret and saynt katheryne in ffeny stret-
ford, A pounde of wax.

Item, To Elizabeth Emery my wiffe all the stuffe that she 25
brought with hire and xx^s in monye or monye worth.

Item, I bequeth to willyam Emery my Sone, xx^s.

the resydewe of all my goodes not bequethyd I bequeth and

* lf. 242.

† lf. 242 bk.

geue to Thomas Emery my son and willyam Emery my son whom I make and ordeyn myn executors, they to dispose my goodes to the honor off god and for the welth¹ of my soule And all chrystyn sowles.

5 wytnes: *ser* Robert Chadoke, my gostly father; Thomas burdes; Roger Ansty; with oþer moo.

XXXIV: Will, 1533, of Richard Bradley, of Slawston, Leicestershire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 242.

[I. *Abbreviated English Text of Will.*]

*** Testamentum Ricardi Bradley.**

In the name of god, Amen; the x. day of nouember the yere 10 November, 1533.
of owre lord god a thowsand cccc xxxiiij, I, Richard bradley, etc.

10 my body to be buryed in the churche yard of all halowys in Slaweston. Burial in Slawston churchyard.

To our moder churche of lincoln, ii d.

To the gyldyng of the trelyse yn Slaweston, iijs iiijd.

To henry bradley my sone, A gret chest, a gret troff, A gret 15 pan, A payr of coberd, and A mare; To euery chyld off my Sone henry bradley, A Shepe; To euery chyld of my dowghter Alice Tailer, a shepe; To euery chyld of willyam Mason, A shepe, Providyng allway that the shepe aforsayd shall remayn vnto [the] longest levyng, if hit happyn any of the chylderyn

20 aforsayd to depart before they come to the age of xij. yeres; To willyam Tayler, A mare, And all the howyll ware stondyng at the southe yend of the berne; To Alice Tailer, a bulloke, ij. pottes, a pan, and a stryke of malt; To euery chyld of Thomas tailer, j d.; To euery chylde of Thomas bradley, my Cosyn, j d.;

25 To euery one of my god chyldryn, ij d.; To euery man dewllyng in A cottage having no plowe, ij d. Requests to children, grand-children, and others.

The resydewe off my goodes not bequethyd I geue only to margaret my wiffe, whom I mak my executryx, And henry Appointment of Executors,

* lf. 242.

¹ 'welth' is substituted for 'welfare'.

bradley my sone ; And he to haue only all suche legaces as ben
expressyd afore in my will for his Labors.

and Overseer
of the will.

Also, I make ser Thomas Ello, vycar of Sclaweston, to be
Supervisor of this my last will, þat my executors aforsayd do
performe hit in every part. 5

wytnes herof: ser Thomas Ello, vicar of Sclaweston ; Gregory
Bradley ; with oþer moo.

[II. *Latin Record of Probate.*]

Proved,
30 November,
1533.

Probatum fuit vltimo die Mensis Nouembris ¹ Anno Domini
Millesimo Quingentesimo xxxii^o, administracione commissa
executoribus iuratis. 10

**XXXV: Will, 1533, with Codicil, of John Lee, shop-
keeper, of Stamford, Lincolnshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln,
lf. 243 and lf. 243 bk. The codicil contains a clear statement of the three
funeral service-days: (a) the actual day of interment; (b) the service a
week later; (c) a month later.

[I. *Abbreviated Text of the Will.*]

* Testamentum Iohannis Lee.

1533.
Burial in
St. Mary's
churchyard,
Stamford.
Burial-place
to be marked
by a tomb-
stone.
Bequests to
churches.

In the name off god, Amen, the yere of owre lord god a
thowsand ccccc xxxiiij, I, Iohn Lee off Stamford, &c.

my body to be buryed in the chyrche yerd off Saynt Maryesse
in Stamford, nere vnto the northe dore, and there A stone to
be set iiij. quarters hee. 15

Item, I bequeth to the Sacrament of the aulter, xiijs iiij^d;
Item, to owie Lady of Lincoln, xx^d; Item, to the ancrysse of
poulys, viij^d.

Bequests of
plate, goods,
and household
stuff, to testa-
tor's wife.

Item, I bequeth to my wiffe my best syluer salt with one
couer of Syluer; Item, I bequeth to my wiffe all the ware in 20
my shope, withowt any interruptyon; And iiij. fetherbeddes
with all thing longyng to them; The one halffe of p^e pewtter

* lf. 243.

¹ MS. has 'Septembris'.

and brasse and xij. peyre of Shettes; Item, I bequeth to my sayd wiffe, syx of my best syluer spones and of the second sorte vj. syluer spones, and a powneyd pece of syluer.

And she to haue my house duryng hir lyffe.

5 And she also to deall euery goodfryday v^s in bred so long as she leuith; And I will my heyres after her to deylle euery good fryday v^s for my soule for * ever more.

Provision for
a Good Friday
dole in bread.

I bequeth to hugh hepallsyx syluer spoynes of the second sort, And A syluer salt, and a fetherbed (with all thinges
10 longing vnto hyt), And xix^s of Syluer and gold.

Also, I wyll that tabyll and formes with bedstedes in the chambers stond as eyrelomys to my son harry and his heyres; I bequeyeth to herry my sone all the ware in my ware chamber and all my Tymber.

Bequests to
testator's son,
Harry Lee.

15 Also I wyll pat my sone harry pay my dettes and receue my dettes, And the forsayd harry to be my executor to dispose the goodes not bequethyd for the helth of my soule and all chrysten soules.

Appointment
of Executor,

Also, I wyll pat my cosyn herry Lacy be supervisor of this
20 my wyll, pat hyt be fullyllyd, and he to haue xx^s.

and of Overseer
of the will.

These beyng wytnes: willyam haryson, pryst; hew heppall; Thomas Iackson; with o^{pe}r more.

[II. *Text of what seems to be a Codicil.*¹]

Item, I bequeth to my dowghter Elizabeth hynde A syluer pot with A keuer pat was Iohn Cybbeys.

15 Item, I bequeth to euery order of the freers of Stamford to pray for my soule, iij^s iiij^d.

Bequests, for
intercessory
services, to the
several Orders
of Friars Men-
dicant in
Stamford.

Item I bequeth to corpus christi gyld my newe chales, with pe patent.

Bequest to
Corpus Christi
Gild, Stam-
ford.

Item, I wyll pat my executor shall distrybute for my soule
30 after my decesse x^{li} in forme folowyng, that ys to say, the day of my buryall, iij^{li} vj^s viij^d; on my seuenth day, iij^{li} vj^s viij^d; and one my thurtie day, iij^{li} vj^s viij^d.

Provision of
doles for the
three burial
ceremonies.

* lf. 243 bk.

¹ Probably added immediately after the making of the will.

Item, I bequeth to Agnes cokkes, one fetherbed, a mattresse, and all that longith to A bed.

Item, I bequeyeth to ser willyam hurwodde, a yaberd and hys bord for one quartter.

The wytnes aforsayd beyng present. °

5

XXXVI. Will, 1533³/₄, of Thomas Normanton, of Tinwell, Rutlandshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 244. The scribe of this part of the register puts a dot over both limbs of the letter y: thus, 'ij.'

[I. *Somewhat abbreviated Text of the Will.*]

*** Testamentum Thome Normanton.**

23 February,
1533/4.

In the name of god, Amen. The xxij. day of ffebruarij In the yere of owre lord god A thowsand v. hondred xxxij., I, Thomas normanton of Tynwell, &c.

Burial in Tinwell church-yard.

Provision of mortuary.

Bequest to Collyweston church, Northamptonshire. Disposal of personalty.

my body to be buried within the churche yard of Tynwell aforsayd; Item, for my mortuarij,¹ accordyng to the acte of the 10 kynges parlament.²

Item, to our Mother churche of Lincoln, viij d.

Item, to the hye auter at Colyweston, iiij d.

The resydewe of my goodes vnbequethed I wyll hit be deuided in iij. partes by the discretyon of margat, my wiffe, and Richard 15 and Iohn, my Sonnes, whom I ordeyn and make my executors to se this my last wyll and testament to be performyd and don in this maner folowyng ·

That ys to say, one part in funerall expenses and legacies aboue sayd; The second part to my sayd wiffe holly³; The iij^de 20 part to my Chylder.

Entail of testator's land,

Also, I wyll and geue all my londe closes to Richard my Eldest son, and to his heyres of his body lawfully begotyn; And iff he depart with owt issue lafull, then I will that the sayd lond and close shall remayn with my son Iohn, And to 25 his lawfull heyres,

so that the sayd Richard and his heyres and the said Iohn

* lf. 244.

² See p. 5.

¹ i. e. mortuary.

³ i. e. wholly.

and his heyres successiue shall kepe yerly my Annyuersy at
 the churche of ketton for euer more, in this maner folowyng: subject to pro-
 vision of an
 obital-service
 yearly at
 Kettonchurch,
 Rutlandshire.
 ffyrst, to the vicar for diryge and masse, iiij^d; Item, to the
 belles, ij^d; Item, to the Clerke, ij^d; Item, to the ryngers, ij^d;
 5 Item, to v. pore folkes, v^d; and the masse peny.¹

Item, I will that willyam Stannerd And margaret my ser-
 uantes shall haue iche of them A lambe.

Provided that I will that the sayd lond and closse shall
 remayn to my sayd wiffe vnto the tyme that one of my sayd Provision for
 minority of
 testator's sons.
 10 sonnes shalbe xvij. yeres of age.

Also, I ordeyn and make my broper willyam normanton Appointment
 of Overseer of
 the will.
 superuisor of this my testament and Last will, to se hit per-
 formyd and don, as my faythfull trust ys in hym, and he to
 haue for hys labor my best doblet & my gowne.

15 These beyng witnes: Sir hue Too, my gostly faper; m^r
 Thomas witham notarij,² Iohn smyth of Tynwell, etc.

[II. *Latin Record of Probate.*]

Probatum fuit xij^o die Aprilis, Anno domini Millesimo Proved,
 13 April, 1534.
 Quingentesimo xxxiiij^o, Commissa administracione relicte, et
 reseruata potestate committendi alijs quum peruenerint ad
 20 etatem legitimam.

**XXXVII. Will, 153 $\frac{3}{4}$, of Robert Astbroke, of High
 Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 248
 to lf. 249 bk.

[I. *Full Text of the Will.*]

*** Testamentum Roberti Astbroke, de Chepyng Wicombe.**

In dei nomine, Amen: the thyrde day of marche in the yere of 8 March,
 1533/4.
 I our lord god a thousand cccc xxxiiij, I, Robert Astbroke,
 of chepyng wycombe in the countye of buckes, with-yn the
 diocesse of lincoln, hole of mynd & memorye, make my Testa-
 25 ment and last wyll in this forme and maner folowyng:

ffyrst, I bequeth my sowle to allmygthy god, our blessed lady,
 and all the hole companye of hevyng; my bodye to be buryed in Burial in

* lf. 248.

¹ p. 224.

² i. e. notary.

All Saints
church, High
Wycombe.

our lady chapell with-yn the church of all halowys of chepyng-
wycombe aforsaid.

Item, to the reপরatýons of the mother church of Lincoln,
xij^d.

Bequests to
High
Wycombe
church and its
lights.

Item, to the hye aluter yu my pariche church, for tithes 5
and offrynges neclygently forgotten, x^s; Item, to the lygth of
our lady, the lygth of our lady [of] pitie, The lygth of saynt
george, the lygth of Saynt Clement, and the lygth of Saynt
katheren, v^s by equall porcyons.

Bequest for
road-repair.

Item, to the mending of the hye ways about wycombe as it 10
shalbe thought neccessarye, xiiij^{li} vj^s viij^d.

Item, to euery one of my god children, xij^d.

Provision for
funeral and
month's mind.

Item, I wyll that there be spent emonges preistes, clerkes,
and pore pepell at my buryng and monthe mynd tene poundes
at lest.

15

A chantry-
priest to be
provided for
10 years to say
service for
testator's soul,
and to help in
the choir,

Item, I wyll that A preist be founde to syng and say masse
in the church of wicombe befor saide, at Ihesus aluter, for my
sowle and all cristen sowles, and the same priste shall helpe to
mayntayne the seruys off god in the quere, by the space of x.
yers; and he to haue euery yere for his stipend vj^{li} xiiij^s iiij^d 20
(that commythe to lxxvj^{li} xiiij^s iiij^d), and that there be no
preiste admyttyd to the saide seruys but that can syng at lest
his playn songe substancyally.

said chantry-
priest to be
musical.

Bequest of
remainder of
lease of the
Bridge Mill
from St.
George's Col-
lege, Windsor.

Item, I bequeth to Clemens bukneil, now * the wiffe of Robert
Bennet, lxxvj^s viij^d; Item, to the said Clemens, the moyte of 25
the brygg myll, to haue and to hold to hire and hire heyres,
duryng the yeres specyfyed in a peyre of Indenturs made betewne
the deane and Chanons of the kynges college in the castell of
wyndesore and Thomas Jarrede, the which moyte I bought of
willyam Jarred hys brother.

30

Item, I bequeth to henry bennet, the sonne of Jane bennet
(my doughter), in redy monye lxxvj^s viij^d.

Entail of lands
in High
Wycombe on
testator's
grandsons and
their heirs,
viz.
(a) on Henry
Bennet,

Item, I bequeth to the sayd henry all my Landes called
Nakeles and crowchfyld, with all the landes belongyng to the
same in the Tounes fylde of wycombe; and the closses called 35
Hampdens now in the occupyeng of me (the sayde Robert),
Henry lytell-paygge, Roger Coke, and Iohn standische; and a
tenement, with the appurtenaunces, sett and lyeng in Crounden

* lf. 248 bk.

lane in Wycombe, that Roland Moundy nowe occupyeth, to haue and to hold, to the sayd henry and to the heires of his bodye laufully begoten, and for defaunt of suche heires of his bodye laufully begotten to the rygth heires of the sayd henry for euer.

and (b) on
Robert Bennet.

- 5 Item, I bequeth to Robert bennet, a nother Sone of the sayd Iohan, too acres of land in wycombe feld, Ioynng to bosham, nowe occupied by Thomas padleygth; a close and medewe, Ioynng to Carters fullyng mill, now in the holdyng of Thomas pusey; a Tenement in the bowrogh that Thomas plowman
10 Latte dewlyd yn and occupieth it, To haue & to hold vnto the sayd Robert Bennet and to hys heires of his bodye laufully begoten; And, for default of suche heires, to the Rigth heire of the sayd Robert for euer.

Item, I bequeth vnto Roger bennet, xiiij^{li} vj^s viij^d of redy monye.

- 15 Item, I bequeth vnto willium Astbroke, the tenement and howse that he now dewllithe yn, to haue to hym [and] to hys heires for euer.

Bequests of
real property to
(a) William
Astbroke,

- Item, I bequethe to Alys Lee, my daughter, a tenement with the apportenaunces, late bought of Richard byrche by exchaunge
20 for other lande, the which Coke and Penley nowe occupieth and holdith; and the tenement and garden pat Litelpayge late dewllid yn, to haue to the saide Alys and to the heyres of hire bodye laufully begoten betewne Thomas Lee and hire; and, for default of suche heyres, to the rygth heyres of the said Alys
25 for euer.

(b) Alice (testator's daughter),
wife of Thomas
Lee.

Item, I bequeth to Rauffe Lee hire sone, lxvj^s viij^d.

Item, I bequeth to Thomas Lee, my Sonne in Lawe, my gowne furred with foyns.

- Item, I geue and bequeth to Clemens my wiffe the howse that
30 I nowe dewll yn, with all thappur[te]naunces on botlie sydes the water; and the landes and Tenementtes callyd lokes, with all the appurtenaunces therto belonging (now, or yn any tyme paste), with all the howsses therto lyeng & adionyng that I late purchased of Thomas Clerke and Isake sybyll and dyuers other
35 persons; the newe baron¹ in Saynt Marys strett and the landes called pennys landes and the late humfrye wellisborn (the which I bought of Mr Dormer), to haue to the saide clemens duryng here naturall liffe, and after the decesse of the sayd Clemens to

Grant of
lands for life-
term to testa-
tor's widow,

¹ barn.

with reversion to Thomas and Alice Lee, and their heirs, remayne to Thomas Lee and Alys his wiffe and to the heires of ther too bodyes lawfully begoten; and, for default of suche heyres, to remayne to the rygth heires of the sayd Alys for euermore; And further, I wyll that the said Clemens my wiffe subject to keep-
ing buildings in repair, and
preserving timber-trees on the land, shall kepe and mayntayn all the reparacyons of the sayd houses 5 bequethed vnto hire, And further do no wast nor spoyll in fellyng of woddes groying and beyng vpon the sayd grounde but onlye suche as shalbe necessary for hir fewell and reperatyons.

Disposal of testator's plate. And, further, * I wyll the sayd Clemens my wiffe haue the iijde part of all my plate, ouer and aboue all the playt I had 10 with hire (the which lykwise I geue vnto here); and the other ij. parttes (resydewe of my owne playt), one of them I geue vnto Thomas Lee, And the other part I will it shall go vnto the performans of this my will (except ij. spones of the xij. apostelles the which I geue vnto my wiffe). 15

Further bequests to testator's wife, Clemence Astbroke. Item, I will that Clemens my wiffe shall haue xlii in redy money, of the wiche I wyll that xxli therof she shall pay vnto Robert Cuttes for the bequest of Richard cuttes his father.

Item, I wyll that the sayd Clemens my wiffe shall haue all my howshold stufte vnbequestyd, and corne remaynyng in the 20 baron and yn the felde and howsses, and my horse and my cart and plowes and the apparell therto belongyng, and suche shepe and bestes as I haue nowe at Wycombe or in the parische the day of makyng of this will.

Revocation of all bequests to testator's wife, if she interfere with carrying out this will. And further, I wyll, by thys presenttes, that if the sayd 25 Clemens embesyll any part of my money, or playtt, oblygatyons, Evydenses, or wrytting concernyng my landys aboue bequethed, or interrupte or lett, vex or troble, my executors or any of them, or by any maner of means hynder that this my last will may not be trulye executud and performed accordyng to the intent therof, 30 Then I will that all the legaces, bequestes aboue specyfied, and euery parcell of that made vnto the saide Clemens, shalbe voyde and of none effect.

Bequests to William Astbroke, and his children. Also, I forgeue vnto wylliam Astbroke all the dettes that he owyth me from the begynnyng of the world vnto this day, 35 excepte the annuite owt of Iohan Astbroke landes hys wiffes the which conteyneth days of payment the wiche I wyll it shall contynewe the payment vntyll the tyme I depart the world,

* If. 249.

then to cesse and no more to be payd, And I bequeth to the maryage of eche of the sayde willyam Astbroke chyldren xx^s of redy monye.

Also, I wyll that my executors shall bye a Stone of marbull
5 with my wiffe and our cheldren in Laten there yn made and
graved, etc.

Testator desires a marble tombstone, with figures in latten.

Also, I bequeth to Alys markam my *servant* in redy moneye
xl^s; Item, to Richard Ienyns my *servant*, xx^s; Item, to Iohn
hare my *servant*, vj^s viij^d; Item, to Alys hokett, xij^s iiij^d;
10 Item, to Isabell my *servant* xij^s iiij^d.

Bequests to servants,

Item, to ij. of my godchyldren at Thomas Eylbarne, each of
them, vj^s viij^d.

and to god-children.

The resydewe of all my goodes, not bequethed, I leue them
to Thomas lee, wyllyam Ioncken, and Iohn Raunys, to dispose
15 for the helth of my sowle, my wiffes sowle, and all christen
sowlles, whom I ordeyn and make my executors of thys my
Laste will, and eche of them to haue for there labors xl^s, with
all expences that they make concernyng any troble of my wyll
testament and Landes duryng my wiffes lyffe;

Appointment of Executors,

20 And further, I make ouerseers of this my last wyll Roland
messynger (m^r of art and vycar of wycombe), and wyllyam
Chalfont, gent., nowe mayre of wycombe at the makyng of this
will; and eche of them to haue x^s. for to call dilygently of my
Executors to dispose my goodes, And that my executors no thyng
25 retayne to there owne vse, as is aboue wrytten.

and of Overseers of the will.

In wytnes wherof this present wyll, Roland Messynger,
*maister of art and vicar of wycombe; Edmunde Clerke,
preyst; Iohn blake, preiste; and Iohn nasche, parische Clerke.
wrytten the day and yere aboue sayd.

30 And further, I wyll that ther be an obit kepe by my executors
or ther assignes by the space of xx^{ti} yers and euery yere to be
spent emonges pristes, Clerkes and poure peopell x^s. (which
commyth to x^{li}).

Testator to be commemorated by an obital service yearly for 20 years.

Item, I wyll and bequeth to Thomas Eylbarn and his wiffe
35 xx^s.

[II. Latin Record of Probate.]

Probatum fuit [...] die Mensis Iunii, Anno domini Millesimo
Quingentesimo xxxiiij^{to}, apud wooborn coram magistro Henrico

Proved,
June, 1534,
at Wooburn,

Buckingham-
shire, before
Henry Morgan,
LL.D.

Morgan, legum doctore, commissario generali Reuerendi in christo patris, Lincolnensis Episcopi; Commissaque administratione executoribus iuratis, &c.

XXXVIII: Will, 1534, of Richard Womacke, of Bourn, Lincolnshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 243.

[I. *Summary of the English Will.*]

*** Testamentum Ricardi Womake.**

2 April, 1534.

In the name off god, Amen: the yere of owr lord god a thowsand v hundred xxxiiij. the second day of Apryll, 5 I, Rychard womake, of burne, &c.

I bequeth to the churche of Lincoln, ijd.

Bequests to
Bourn church
and its gilds.

To the hye aulter of Burne, iiij^d; To the trinyte gyld, iiij^d; to Saynt Iohn gyld, iiij^d; To the belles, iiij^d.

Bequests to
testator's
children.

And I geue and bequeth to Iohn womake my sone, one 10 gyldyng; To willyam my son, one calffe; To Elizibeth my dowghter, one calffe.

Testator's wife
to administer
his estate.

The resydewe of my goodes not bequethyd I geue and be-
quethe to Iane my wiffe, whom I make my full Executryx, to
pay my dettes, and my goodes to dispose as she shall thinke 15
best to the plesure of god and welth of [my] soule.

wytnes: Robert haryson, vicar; Thomas feryby; & Iohn
wokman.

[II. *Summary of the Latin Record of Probate.*]

Proved,
at Bourn,
12 April, 1534.

Probatum xij^o die Aprilis Anno domini Millesimo quingente-
simo xxxiiij^{to} apud burne, administracione comissa executrice¹ 20
iurate, &c.

XXXIX: Lease, 1534, of the Manor of Walton in Buckinghamshire, being an estate attached to the prebend of Haydour cum Walton in Lincoln Minster.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 282 and lf. 282 bk.

* lf. 243.

¹ sic: read 'executrici'.

[I. Full Text of the Indenture.]

* **T**his Indenture made the xixth day of Maye In the xxvjth Indenture, yere of the Raigne of oure soueraigne lorde kynge [Henry] 19 May, 26 Henr. VIII (1534).

Haydour
prebende
5 Indentura.

betwene Master william ffrackleyn, Clerke,
prebendary of the prebend of haydour in the
countie of Lincoln, of the oone partye,

by which
William
Frackleyn,
prebendary of
Haydour,
leases to
William and
Katheryn
Fracklyn of
Thurleigh,
Bedfordshire,

And william ffracklyn of Thyrley in the countie of Bedford
gentleman And katheryn his wiffe on the other partye :

witnesith that the said master william ffranklyn, Clerke,
10 hathe dymysed graunted and to fferme letten, and by these
presentes graunteth dymyseth and to fferme letteth vnto the
said william ffranklyn and katheryn his wiffe, his Manour place
of walton in the countie of buckes, percell of the said prebend
of haydour, with all the mansyon houses, Messuagies, landes,
15 tenementes, buyldynges, Rentes, Reuersions, medowes, mores,
pastures, fedynges, leases,¹ seruyces, wardes, marygyes, relieves,
eschetes, flynes, haryottes, sutes, and perquesites of courtes and
leyttes, surrenders, Amercyamentes, and all other commodityes,
Ryalties, and advantagyes whate so euer thei be, vnto the same
20 manour apperteynyng or in eny wise belongyng.²

the manor of
Walton in
Buckingham-
shire belonging
to the prebend
of Haydour,
[Typical ex-
ample of the
manorial
formula]

To haue and to hold, and peassebly to occupye and inioye, for 61 years
the said manour of walton and other the abouesaid premisses
and euery of them, with all and synguler ther appurtenaunces
what so euer they be, vnto the said william and katheryn his
25 wiffe, ther executours and assignes, ffrom the ffeaste of Saincte
Michaell tharchangell next commyng and ffolowyng the date
herof vnto the ende and terme of Three score and oone yeres
then next after ensuyng and ffolowyng fully to be complett and
ended,

30 yeldyng and payng yerely therfore duryng the said terme at the net
vnto the said Master william ffracklyn, Clerk, his successours yearly rent of
or assignes, prebendaryes of the said prebend of haydour ffor £20, payable
the tyme beyng, Twentie poundes sterling in manour and fforme half-yearly.
ffolowyng, That is to saye, att the ffeaste of thannunciacion of
35 our lady And saincte Michaell tharchangell by even porcions.

* If. 282.

alternative word for 'pastures'.

¹ *sic*. Probably an alternative
spelling for 'leases', which is an

² See *Godstow English Register*
(E.E.T.S.), pp. lv-lxi.

Powers of distraint reserved, if rent be unpaid.

And if itt happen the said yerly rent or fferme of twentie poundes, or eny parte or parcell therof, to be behynde vnpaid, in parte or in all, by the space of ffortie dayes next after either of the said twoo ffeastes in the whiche itt ought to be payd att, And if itt be lafull[y] asked, Then itt shalbe lafull vnto the 5 said master william ffranklyn, Clerke, his successours or assignes, into the said Manour of walton and other the aboue-said premisses, with ther appurtynaunces, or in eny parte or parcell of the same, to entre and distreyn, And the distresses soo taken in the same to lede, drive and carry away, And itt to 10 withholde vnto suche tyme as the said master William ffrank-[1]lyn, Clerke, his successours or assignes, of the same yerly rent or fferme of xx^{li}, with tharreragies of the same (if eny suche be), be fully satisfied, contented, and payd.

Powers of re-entry reserved, if rent be left long unpaid

And Alsoo, if itt ffortune the said yerely Rent or fferme of 15 xx^{li} or eny parte or parcell therof to be behynd vnpayd by the space of oone moneth next after the said xlti dayes next after either of the said twoo ffeastes in the whiche itt ought to be payd, And if itt be lafully asked, Then itt shalbe lafull vnto the said master william ffranklyn, Clerk, his successors or 20 assignes, into the manour and lordshippe or eny parte or parcell of the same, to reentre, And the same peassebly to occupye and inioye agayn as in his fformer estate: And the same william ffranklyn and katheryn ther executours and assignes ffrom thense clerely to expulse, putt oute, and dischardge ffor ever, 25 this indenture or eny thing conteyned therein to the contrary not withstandyng.

Lessees to be responsible for all repairs.

And also, itt is couenaunted and agreed betwene the sayd parties, that the said william ffranklyn and katheryn his wifie, ther heyres and executours, shall bere allmaner of chardgies of 30 Reparacions apperteynyng and belongyng to the said manour.

Special bargain that, for a fortnight, twice a year, the prebendary is to have lodging for himself and stabling and fodder for his three horses.

And moreouer, itt is agreed and couenaunted betwene the saide parties that when soeuer the prebendary of the said prebend ffor the tyme beyng, duryng the said yeres, shalbe disposed to see and vysyte his said manour and landes, or to 35 come thether to preche the worde of god, that he shall haue the best chamber and lodgyng ffor the space of xiiijth dayes twice in the yere, And also stabelyng and haye ffor three horses duryng the said xiiijth dayes twice in the yere, as is aforesaid.

And alsoo, the said william ffrankeleyn and katheryn his wiffe couenaunte and graunte by thiese presentes, to and with the said master william ffranklyn, Clerke, that he and the said william ffranklyn and katheryn shall permytte and suffer oone Iohn hogys peasebly to inioye and occupye ffor terme of Twentie yeres A water Milne within the lordshippe of walton aforesaid.

John Hodges is not to be disturbed in his lease of the water-mill.

And also, to suffer oone Iohn Coly nowe beyng ffermour of the Manor of Walton with the appurtenaunces peassebly to occupye, and inioye the same withouten vexacion, lett, disturbed aunce, or impedymment of the said william and katheryn, ther executours or assignes, ffrom the ffeaste of saincte Michael tharchangell next commyng vnto the ende and terme of an hole yere then next ffolowyng, accordyng vnto the course of husbandry, paying ffor the same the Rentes and ffermes accustomed vnto the said william ffranklyn and katheryn his wiffe, ther executours and assignes.

John Coly, at present lessee of the manor, is to be undisturbed till the end of his lease.

ffor the true performance of all and euery the abouesaid premisses, of either of the abouesaid parties to be observed, performed, fulfilled, and kept, either of them byndeth them selffe to other in seuerall obligacions of oone hundrith poundes sterlinge, as in the same obligacion (beryng date the daye and yere abouesaid) more playnly appereth.

Both parties give bond for £100, to observe the terms of this indenture.

In wytnes wherof the parties abouesaid to these indentures interchangeably haue sett ther seales the daye and yere abovesaid.

[II. Full Text of the Confirmation.]

Et Nos Iohannes, permissione diuina Lincolniensis Episcopus, Concessionem, dimissionem, et locationem, in indenturis presentibus annexis specificatas, ratas habentes, et gratas, eas pro nobis et Successoribus nostris, quantum in nobis est, ratificamus, approbamus, et confirmamus pro terminis in eijsdem expressis, iuxta omnem vim, formam, et effectum concessionis, dimissionis, et locationis huiusmodi (Iuribus nostris, et ecclesie nostre cathedralis beate marie Lincolniensis consuetudinibus et dignitate, in omnibus semper saluis).

John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, approves of this lease,

In quarum quidem Ratificacionis, approbacionis, et confirmacionis, fidem et testimonium, sigillum nostrum ad causas pre-

but reserves all rights of his see and of Lincoln Minster.

Sealed with the bishop's seal ad causas,

at the bishop's
lodging at Old
Temple,
London,
16 February,
1537/8.

sentibus apponi fecimus . datum in hospitio nostro apud vetus
templum London, xvj^{to} die mensis february, Anno domini
Millesimo quingentesimo xxxvij^{mo}, Et nostre consecracionis
Anno xvij^{mo}.

**XL. : Agreement, 1534, between the rector of Syresham,
Northamptonshire, and Biddlesden Abbey in Buck-
inghamshire as to tithes of certain lands in Syres-
ham parish.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 264,
lf. 264 bk., and lf. 265.

The explanation of the enrolment of this agreement is most aptly given
in a charter, dated Monday before All Saints' day (29 October), 1274, found
among Westminster Chapter Muniments, and brought to my notice by
Dr. W. Warde Fowler.

The Priory of Hurley, Berkshire, agreed to allow, in consideration of
the payment of 10s. half-yearly, the Rectory of Kingham, Oxfordshire,
quiet possession of certain tithes which the Priory used to collect in that
parish. But the Priory made this agreement conditional on the rector's
obtaining, at his own costs, both from the Bishop, and from the Dean and
Chapter of Lincoln, a full ratification of the agreement so as to ensure its
due observance in future. Clearly, in this Syresham case, Biddlesden Abbey
must have followed the same course.

A second stipulation made by Hurley Priory was even more drastic, and
is most suggestive of the multitudinous trouble incident to collection of
tithe. This stipulation was that (by the authority of the Bishop and
Chapter) the rector of Kingham and his successors should bind themselves
to allow the Archdeacon of Oxford (or his Official), if they had omitted to
pay this ten shillings in any year, to compel them, by excommunication in
the Archdeacon's Ecclesiastical Court, on mere production of this agree-
ment, to pay this tithe-rent-charge, with any arrears that had arisen, and
all expenses incurred in connexion with the case; and should expressly
renounce all right of appeal to any other law-court.

**[I.] * Compositio inter Abbatem et conventum de
byttilsden et Rectorem de Sirisham.**

27 December,
1534.

To all Christen people, to whome this present wrytyng in- 5
dentyd shall come to be seen, rede, or harde: We, Richard,
thabbott of bittilsden in the countie off buckyngham, and the
covent of the same place, And Arthur Lowe, Clerk, person of

* lf. 264.

the paryshe church of Syrysham in the countie of Northampton, send gretting in oure Lorde euerlastyng.

fforasmuche as Controversy, variance, and debate hath been mouyd, steryd, and dependyng betwext vs, the foresayd
 5 Richard, Abbott, and covent of the monastery of Bittilsden before named in the countie of buckingham on the oon partie, And Arthur Lowe, person of Syrysham above named in the countie of Northampton in the other partie, as well of and for right, title, and perception of tithes commyng and renewyng
 10 and that hath come and bene percevyd within the sayd peryshe of Sirisham vpon xij. yerdes of Launde called mary Launde, and vpon certeyne other landes called stockyng close, stockyng leese, stable yeates, westorne hill, tyle house Lande, and the tythe * of A mede called dole mede (parcell, as it is said, of the
 15 sayd xij. yerdes of Lande named mary Lande), as for other causes and maters dependent and incide[n]te to this premisses,

A controversy as to the tithes of 12 yard-lands called 'Mary-land', of lands called 'Stocking-close', &c.,

and of 'Dole mead', in Syresham parish, Northamptonshire, was referred to arbitrators.

for thappesing of all and singuler wiche varyance, contention, and debate, we, either the sayd parties, by medyation of owre ffryndes, for thanoydyng of expenses, labours, and charges in
 20 this behalf, and for A fynall determynacion and perpetuall peace to be hade, haue, by ovr bothe consentes and assent. conuentyd and agreed in like manour and fforme as hereafter dothe ffolowe.

Inprimis, the sayd Abbott and covent, and there successours,
 25 from hensforthe pesable, ffelye, and quyetly, withoute contradiction or interruption of the sayd Arthur or his successours or eny man in there right or title, shall enioye, perceve, and take all and singuler tithes of Corne, haye, wulle, and lambe, ccmmyng, growyng, and renewyng of and vpon xij. yerdes of Lande
 30 called mary lande, and vpon asmoche of the medowe called dole mede as apperteynyth to the xij. yerdes of lande called mary lande (that is to say, the one half of the sayd medowe, the oon yere; & the other half, the other yere; and so forthe frome yere to yere), as the sayd Abbott and covent be wonte to haue, take
 35 and perceue; and also, all maner tithes commyng and renewyng of and vpon A close called stockyng close, stockyng leese, westorne hill, and stable yeattes, Whether the said groundes be in the occupacion of the said Abbott and covent or there

Biddlesden Abbey is to have the tithes of the 'Mary-land' 12 virgates, and of the Maryland share of 'Dole mead';

as also the tithes of 'Stocking close', 'Stocking leese', 'Western hill', and 'Stable yeattes'.

* If. 264 bk.

successours, or in the occupacion of eny other ther seruau^{ntes} for the tyme beyng.¹

But the Abbey is to have the tithes of 'Tile-house land' only when that land is in the Abbey's own occupation.

And the sayd abbott and covente, and ther successours, to perceyve take and enioye for evermore allmaner of tithes com-
myng, growyng, or renewyng of and vpon certeyne londes called 5
tylehouse lande, when and as often as the said Abbott and
covent or there successours shall kepe the sayd landes, or eny
parte therof, in ther owne handes; And when and as often as
the said tyle house landes, or eny parte therof, shalbe lett to
eny tenaunte or tenduntes, then and as ofte the sayd person 10
and his successours to enioye the tithes commyng, growyng, or
renewyng of and vpon asmoche of the said tyle house landes as
shalbe so lett to farme for euermore.

The Abbey is to have the tithes of 'Stocking lese', as above said,

Item, it is agreed that the said abbott and covent, and there
successours, shall, in like manour as is before rehersed, ffor 15
euermore enioye, perseve, and take all and singuler tithes of
corne, hay, wull, and Lambe, Callfe, and mylke, and allmaner
other tithes, predyall or myxt, growyng, commyng, or in eny
maner of wise renewyng vpon stockyng lese, or falling there at
eny tyme, as well when the said grounde called stockyng lese 20
is or shalbe in the occupacion of the said Abbott and covent or
of ther successoures, or in the occupacion of eny there tenaunte
or tenauntes there for the tyme beyng, withoute contradiccion
or interrupcion of the said Arthur or his successours or eny
man pretendyng ther right or title for euermore. 25

and also fees paid by cattle grazing there

Item, that the sayd Abbott and covent and there successours
& there ffermors or Tenauntes of the said stockyng lese shall,
at there pleasure at all tymes, take the Ingistementes² in the
said stocking lese [of] eny bestes of the parischners of Sirisham,
or of eny other persons of whens so euer they be, as ofte and 30
when they will, for euermore ffrom hensforthe, and that the sayd
Abbott and covent and there successours for euermore shall
enioye all and allmaner of tithes³ ffalling, chaunsyng, or re-

¹ Biddlesden Abbey was a Cistercian house. Cistercians had the privilege of paying no tithes on such portions of their lands as they themselves cultivated. Hence the houses of this order found it profitable to work their own lands (cp. 129/6). The Rector of Syresham

claimed tithes of Biddlesden lands in his parish on the ground that they were not worked by the Abbey itself, but were let to a tenant-farmer.

² Or 'agistments': p. 132.

³ Such tithes included a tithe or commutation-money (a) for each

newyng in þe sayd stockyng lese, to be percevyd aswell of straungers cattelles as of the parishners of Sirisham, with-owt contradiction or interruption of the sayd Arthur [or] of eny his successours or eny person or persons pretending his or ther
5 right or tittle there.

Item, it is agreed betwixt the forsaid parties that the above named Arthur and his successours in the churche of Sirisham foreuermore* shall buylde, repayre, and mayntayne the parsonage and the Chaunsell of the sayd Sirysham and all thinges therto
10 belongyng as he is wonte to do.

The Rector of Syresham is to keep in repair the Rectory-house and the Chancel of Syresham.

And also fu[r]thermore, that the sayd person, and his successours frome tyme to tyme for euermore, shall susteyne and bere all proxis¹ and Sinodalles, all dismes and all subsidies,² and all and singuler other Charges, aswell ordynary as extraordinary,
15 what so euer they be or shalbe hereafter, to be payd owt of the sayd churche of Sirisham.

The Rector is to pay all dues payable by his church.

Item, it is furdre agreed, for the advoydyng of striffe, not onlye of the foresayd parties but also there successours for euer, that this present composition shalbe confirmed, aswell by the
20 consente of thabbott and covent of Leicester, patrons of the sayd chirche of Sirisham, as by auctorite of the bisshope of Lincoln ordynary of the same; And that, whan so ever the forsaid Abbott and covent of bittilsden, or eny man in there name, shall procure the sayd confirmacion, the foresaid Arthur
25 shall, at all convenyent tyme, be redy, present (by hym selfe or his sufficiente proctour), and agrey to all these premisses, with oute contradiction.

This agreement is to be confirmed by the patron of Syresham church, and by the diocesan.

In wytnes of all and singuler the premisses, we, either of

animal grazing there; (b) for the milk of cows pastured there; (c) for cheeses made of the milk obtained from this pasture; (d) for lambs, calves, and foals born there.

* lf. 265.

¹ 'procurations' is meant. Procurations and synodals were fees paid by the incumbent of a parish church to the Archdeacon. 'Procurations' represented commutation-money to purchase exemption from liability to entertain the Arch-

deacon and his train at any time during his progress through the country. 'Synodals' represented a share of the money required to defray the expenses of the Archdeacon's Visitations at Easter and Michaelmas. A Visitation was called *Synodus*, because the clergy were required to attend personally.

² 'Dimes' and 'subsides' were taxes, raised by rate on church property, after they had been granted to the king by vote of Convocation.

the sayd parties (aswell of thabbott and covent of bittilsden, and the foresayd Arthur, person of the church of Sirisham), hath putt here-vnto owre seales.

Dated,
7 December,
26 Henr. VIII
(1534).

Gevyn at Bittilsden the vijth day of Decembre the xxvjth yere of the raigne of owre soueraigne Lorde king henry the viijth. 5

[II. *Approbation of this Agreement by St. Mary's Abbey, Leicester, patron of Syresham Church.*]

John Boucher, Abbot of St. Mary's, Leicester, and the Abbey, patrons of Syresham church, accept and ratify the agreement between Biddlesden Abbey and the Rector of Syresham, in all respects.

Et nos Iohannes boucher, alias bowser, miseracione diuina Abbas monasterii beate marie Leicestrie, ordinis sancti Augustini, Lincolnensis diocesis, et eiusdem loci conuentus, veri et indubitati patroni ecclesie parochialis de Syrysham [Lincolnensis diocesis] predictae, pro finali pace et perpetua concordia inter prefatos Abbatem et conuentum de Bittelsden, et successores suos in eodem monasterio, Ac prelibatum Arthurum Lowe, rectorem modernum ecclesie parochialis de Sirisham predictae, et successores suos in eadem ecclesia parochiali, perpetuis futuris temporibus habenda, premissa omnia et singula rata habentes et grata, Eijsdem omnibus et singulis prescriptis ad omnem Iuris effectum qui exinde sequi poterit in futurum.¹ Et, vt ista compositio realis existat et perpetua, nostros assensum et consensum patronales prebuimus atque prebemus confirmacioni eorundem² auctoritate ordinaria faciende consentientes et consentimus per presentes. In quorum omnium et singulorum fidem et testimonium, Sigillum nostrum commune presentibus apposuiamus. 10 15 20

Sealed,
25 February,
1534/5.

Datum in domo nostra capitulari, vicesimo quinto die mensis february, Anno domini Millesimo Quingentesimo xxxiiij^{to}. 25

[III. *Approbation of this Agreement by John Rayne, LL.D., official principal of John Longland, bishop of Lincoln; followed by official registration of the above confirmation by the patron of Syresham rectory.*]

John Rayne, LL.D., Official principal of

Et nos, Iohannes Rayne, iuris doctor, Reuerendi in christo patris et domini, domini Iohannis, permissione diuina Lincol-

¹ Words are left out expressing the assent of the Abbey to the agreement.

² Some six words here are ob-

viously more or less mis-read. They repeated, with usual legal iteration, the fact of the Abbey's assent.

niensis Episcopi vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis et officialis principalis, Auditis, intellectis, ac plenarie discussis allegationibus partium predictarum coram nobis hinc inde habitis et factis, Ac iuris ordine in omnibus debite observato, pro finali
 5 pace et perpetua concordia, inter prenominatos Abbatem et conventum monasterii de bittilsden, et successores suos in eodem monasterio, ex vna [parte] Ac prefatum Arthurum lowe, Rectorem modernum ecclesie parochialis de Sirisham suprascripte, et successores suos in eadem ecclesia parochiali, parte
 10 ex altera, futuris temporibus habenda, Premissa omnia et singula rata habentes et grata, Eijsdem omnibus et singulis ad omnem iuris effectum qui exinde sequi poterit infuturum,¹ Et vt ista compositio realis existat et perpetua, nostros prebentes consensum pariter et assensum, Ea omnia et singula,¹ Ac etiam
 15 confirmationem religiosorum virorum, Abbatis et conventus monasterii beate marie Leicestrie, ordinis sancti Augustini, Lincolnensis Diocesis, patronorum ecclesie parochialis de Sirisham predictae, suprascriptam, auctoritate ordinaria dicti reuerendi patris Lincolnensis Episcopi, ratificamus, appro-
 20 bamus, et confirmamus pro perpetuis temporibus futuris per presentes sigillo officij nostri sigillatas.

bishop John Longland, after hearing both parties in this controversy, confirms the agreement between them,

as also the consent of St. Mary's Abbey, Leicester, patron of Syresham church.

Datum xvij^o die mensis Decembris, Anno domini Millesimo Quingentesimo Tricesimo quinto.

XLI: Will, 1534¹, of Thomas Fisher, of Wooburn, Buckinghamshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 254 bk. and lf. 255.

[I. *Full English Text of the Will.*]

* **Testamentum T. ffisher de Wooborn.**

25 **I**n the name of god, amen. The vjth day of Ianuary in the yere of oure Lorde god a thousand five hundrith thirty and
 and foure, I, Thomas ffisher of the parishe of wooborn in the county of buckyngham, syke in body and hole of mynde, ordre and make this my laste will.

* lf. 254 bk.

¹ Some words expressive of assent apparently left out.

Burial in Wooburn churchyard.	fyreste, I bequethe my soule to almighty god, and to our lady saint mary, and to all the hole company of heven; my body to be buryed within the chirche yard of Wooborn aforesaid.	
	Item, I give and bequethe to the modre chirche of Lincoln, ij ^d .	5
Bequests to Wooburn church.	Item, to the highe aulter of wooborn, iiij ^d .; Item, to the thre lightes vpon the rode beame, vj ^d .; Item, to all soulen light, ij ^d .; Item, to the torche light, a bushell off barley.	
Bequest to testator's son, Christopher Fisher.	Item, I do give and bequethe to christofer my sonne five quarters of barley, and a redde cowe and a platter of pewder.	10
Appointment of Executors,	The rest * of my goodes, nott bequethed, I doo give to Agnes my wiffe and to Thomas my sonne, whome I doo ordeyn and make my executours.	
and of Overseer of the will.	Item, I will that william Manfeld be ouerseer of this my laste will and he to haue for his labour, xx ^d .	15
Bequests to testator's chil- dren, and to others.	Item, I give to hugh my son a bullock of twoo yeres of age; Item, I do give to hughe and William, my sonnes, a quarter of barlye; Item, I do give to my doughter Ione manfeld, thre busshyls of ootes; Item, I give to my doughtour katheryne hawthorn twoo busshilles of barlye; Item, to Elezabeth hornblowe a busshyll of barlye; Item, to Iohn my sonne a sleveles cote.	20
	Witenesses of this my laste will, William Manfeld, henry baven, Edward Hunt, Iohn hawthorn, william hornblowe, Thomas kynge, Iohn kynge, with other moo.	

[II. *Latin Record of Probate.*]

Proved before John Long- land, bishop of Lincoln, during the metropolitcal visitation of that diocese by Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, 14 January, 1534/5.	Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram Reuerendo patre 25 Iohanne, permissione diuina Lincolniensi Episcopo, pendente visitacione metropolitana Reuerendissimi in christo patris et domini, domini Thome, permissione diuina, Cantuarensis Archi- episcopi, totius Anglie primatis et metropolitani infra diocesim suam Lincolnie, decimo quarto die mensis Ianuarij, Anno domini 30 Millesimo quingentesimo xxxiiij ^{to} , Ac per eundem Reuerendum patrem, Lincolniensem Episcopum, approbatum et insinuatum legitimeque pronunciatum pro viribus et valore eiusdem, Com- missa administracione omnium et singulorum bonorum et debi- torum eiusdem defuncti Agneti relicte, in persona Roberti 35	
Agnes Fisher, testator's widow, asking		

waller, litterati, procuratoris sui, in ea parte litteratorie¹ con-
stituti, et Thome ffisher, filio suo naturali, executoribus in dicto
testamento nominatis, et in forma iuris iuratis, &c.

administra-
tion, appeared
by her proctor
(Robert Wal-
ler, literate).

**XLII: Will, 1535, of Gilbert Wigan, a native of Lanca-
shire, vicar of Great Gaddesden, Hertfordshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln,
lf. 255 bk. and lf. 256.

*** Testamentum domini Gilberti Wigan, vicarii de
Gaddisden magna.**

In the name of god, amen. Be itt knowen that I, Sir gilbert
5 wigan, priste, and vicar of grette gaddesden, being of good
memorye and sicke in body, this present viith day of ffebruary
in the yere of our Lorde god M^l v^c xxxiiij^{ti} doo make this my
last will.

7 February,
1534/5.

ffyrste, I bequethe my soule to almighty god, our Lady saynt
10 mary, and all the hole company of heuen; my bodye to be
buried in the said chirche of gaddesden in the space nye vnto
the chauncell afore the crucefixe, nere there as my brodre Iames
wigan lieth, orels where itt shall please god.

Burial beside
his brother
James Wigan,
in Great Gad-
desden church.

Also, I bequeth vnto the said chirche of gaddisden, v^{li}; and
15 to euery pryncipall light in the said chirche, xij^d; And to the
torches of the said chirche, xij^d.

Bequests to
Great Gaddes-
den church.

Also, I bequeth vnto the parishe chirche of Leylond to bye
a grette bell to tenour those iiij. other belles that be ther att
this present day, xlii. Desyoring ser henry ffarington, knight,
20 and m^r Swansey, to se that this my will be performed in that
thing.

A tenor bell to
be provided for
Leyland
church, Lan-
cashire.

Also, I bequeth vnto the parishe chirches of
Hemmylhampstede, flamstede, Stodham, little gad-
disden, to either of the said chirches, iij^s iiij^d.

Bequests to churches of
Hemel Hempstead, Flam-
stead, Little Gaddesden in
Hertfordshire, and of Stud-
ham in Bedfordshire.

* lf. 255 bk.

of the executrix was appointed by

¹ The meaning is that the proctor

her authority expressed in writing.

Bequests to
convents, for
intercessional
services.

Also, I bequethe vnto the monastery and bredren of Ashe-
rudge¹ for a tryntall to be said for me, x s.

And also, to the monastery and nunnes of saint margarittes,²
other x s.

And to the monastery and nunnes of saint gyles,³ other x s. 5

Also, I bequethe vnto *ser* Nicholas Never, priste, to pray for
me, x li.

Bequests for
schooling of
two god-sons.

Also, I bequethe vnto william longley and gilbert Adlington,
my godsones, to either of them x^{li}, to be delyuered vnto william
yonge to be kepte for ther behove and vse towardes the fynding 10
of them to the scole.

Bequests to
relatives.

Also, I bequethe vnto my cosyn Roger Wigan, xx s.

And vnto Ione adlington, wedowe, other xx s.

Also, I bequethe vnto Sir gilbert wigan, priste, my cosyn, x li.

The residue of my moveable goodes (this my will performed) 15
I will itt be disposed vnto my * kynnesfolke, aswell in Lancastre
shire as els where, att the advise of myn executours, whome is
Sir gilbert wigan aforesaid and Sir Nicholas neuer.

Executors,

and Overseer
of the will
named.

And also, I desiour and make my faithfull ffrende Richard
pare thelder superuisour of this my laste will, to whome I doo 20
give therefore x s.

Provision in
in case of
death of
legatees.

Also, I doo bequethe and give vnto my cosyn Ione Charnok, vli.
furthermore, I will that, if soe be that the abouenamed
william longley and gilbert Adlington doe fortune to departe 25
oute of this worlde afore they be xxj^{ti} yeres of age, that then
all suche money as I haue aboue bequethed vnto them, att the
tyme of ther departing to be vnspended to ther vses, that itt be
ordered for ther soules helthe and myn by the discrecion of myn
executoures and suche as haue the foresaid money in ther keping,
withouten any accompte makying to the frendes, executours, or 30
heyres of the sayd william and gilbert.

In witenes whereof: william chambre, george welles, with
other moo.

[II. *Record of Probate.*]

2 March,
1534/5,
proved before

Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram magistro doctore
morgan, commissario generali Reuerendi in christo patris et 35

* If. 256.

¹ Ashridge, Hertfordshire.

² St. Margaret's de Bosco, in
Ivingho parish, Buckinghamshire.

³ St. Giles in the wood, or Wood-
church, in Flamstead parish, Hert-
fordshire.

domini, domini Iohannis, permissione diuina Lincolniensis Episcopi, secundo die mensis marcij anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxiiij^{to}, pendente visitacione metropolitana Reuerendissimi patris, domini Thome, Cantuarensis archiepiscopi, in diocesi Lincolniensi. Commissa fuit administracio omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti domino Nicholao neuer, executori iurato de reddendo compotum, &c. Reseruata potestate consimilem committendi administracionem alteri executori, &c.

Dr. Henry Morgan, commissary of the bishop of Lincoln, during the metropolitanical visitation of the diocese by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer.

XLIII: Will, 1535, of Richard Baven, of Wooburn, Buckinghamshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 259 bk. and lf. 260.

*** Testamentum Ricardi Baven de Wooborn.**

¹⁰ **I**n the name of god, amen: the xxiiijth daye of ffebruary and 24 February, 1534/5.
in the yere off our lord god M^{ll} v^e xxxiiijth, I, Richard baven,
make my testament etc.

ffirste, I bequethe my soule to almighty god &c.

¹⁵ *Item*, I bequethe to the highe aulter of wooborn, iiij d.; *Item*, Bequests to
to the rode light, ij d.; *Item*, to saint Nicolas light, ij d.; *Item*, Wooburn
to saint katheryn light, ij d. church.

Item, I bequethe to Mawde my wiffe all my goodes and catelles, whome I doo ordre and make my executrice. Bequests to wife and children.

Item, I will that henry my sonne haue a grette panne.

²⁰ *Item*, I do give vnto hughe and henry my sonnes a bullock.

Item, I will that Mawde my wiffe shall haue my house and landes twoo yeres daye after my dethe.

Item, I will that nicolas my sone shall paye vnto my sone Iohn bauen, xx s.; and [to] hugh my sone, vj s. viij d.; to henry
²⁵ my sone, vj s. viij d.; and [to] Agnes my doughter, vj s. viij d.;
and to katheryne my doughter, vj s. viij d., All this money to
be paied oute of my landes.

Item, I will that my feoffees shall nott give my sone nycolas
noo state in my house and Landes till suche tyme as he hathe
³⁰ paied my debtes and bequestes.

Item, I will that my sone Nicolas shall beare all the chardgies
att my buriall and monethes mynde.

Item, I doo give to Ione my doughter a redde cowe.

Item, I doo give to nycolas my sone my horse and carte.

Item, I will that my sone Nicolas eyre all my landes.

Item, I bequethe to Elezabeth my doughter a litle brasse pott. 5

Item, I bequethe to Nicolas my sone a table in the hall.

Item, the ij. bullockes to be solde to kepe my house and the reste of the money to my buriall and monethes mynde.

Item, I give to my godsone Richard baven a lambe.

Item, to my brodre henry a shepe. 10

Overseers of
will named.

Item, I doo ordre and make ouersears of this my laste Will Iohn Redynge and christofer coke, * and to have for their paynes, xx d.

wittenes of this my laste will: william manfelde, . . . Hornblowe, and Roger ffenton. 15

Will proved,
12 July, 1535.

Probatum fuit coram Reuerendo patre, domino Iohanne Lincolnensi Episcopo, Duodecimo die mensis Iulij Anno domini millesimo quingentesimo xxxv^{to}, Commissa administracione execatrici supranominate iurate, &c.

XLIV: Will, 153⁴/₅, of Richard Vicars, of Thurlby, Lincolnshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 243 bk.

[I. *Abbreviated English Text of Will.*]

† Testamentum Ricardi vicars.

1 March,
1534/5.

In the name of god, Amen. The fyrst day off marche The 20 yere of owre Lord god a thowsand ve xxxiiij, I, Richard vycars, of Thurlibye, in the diocesse of Lincoln, &c.

Burial in
Thurlby
church, and
bequests to it.

my body to be buryed in the churche aforseyd; Also I bequeth to the hye auter, a stryke of barley; Item, to the belles of Thurlibye churche, A stryke of barley. 25

Item, to owre lady of Lincoln, iiij d.

* lf. 260.

† lf. 243 bk.

Also, I bequeth to Iakan¹ my son my howse that I dewlle yn, with my cart and cart-geyre, my plough, and plough-geyre, And my crope on the ground: to enter on my howse at mydsomer, And he to pay the lordes rent.

Bequests to
testator's
children

5 Also, I bequeth to Iohn my sone all my free londe with-in the lordshipe of obthorpe in the pariche of Thurlybye aforsayd, one cowe, one awue,² and A lambe.

Item, to nycholas, my son, A cowe, an awe, and A lambe.

Also, I bequeth to henry my son, my howse pat Iohn clerke
10 dewllyth in, one cowe, one Awe, and A lambe.

Item, to willyam my son, one cowe, an awe, and a lamb.

Item, to Elezibeth my dowghter, one cowe, an awe, & A lambe.

To my awnt harby, an awe, and A lambe.

and to rela-
tives.

15 The resydewe of my goodes vnbequethyd I geue and bequeyth to willyam harbye, my Cosyn, whom I ordeyn and mak my hole executor, he to dispose hyt for the helth of my soule as he thinkyth best.

wytnes, Thomas Eldred þ^e Elder, willyam fraye, Iohn bake-
20 stare, with oper more.

[II. *Brief Latin Record of Probate.*]

Probatum xii^o. die Aprilis Anno domini 1534, apud stamford,
Commissa administracione executori iurato, &c.

Proved,
at Stamford,
13 April, 1534.

XLV: Lease, 1535, of the prebendal estate at Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, belonging to the prebend of Leighton Buzzard in Lincoln Minster.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 265 bk. This prebend is now called Leighton Ecclesia, because mainly endowed by impropriation of the rectory of Leighton-Buzzard.

*** Indentura Prebende de Leighton bosserde.**

This Indenture made the viijth day of Apriell, The xxvjth yere of the raigne of kynge henry the viijth.

Indenture,
8 April,
26 Henr. VIII
(1535),
by which John

25 betwene Iohn Chambre, Clerke, person and prebendary of

* lf. 265 bk.

¹ ? John.

² i. e. awe = ewe.

Chambre, prebendary, leases to William Johnson, of Leighton Buzzard, the rectory and prebendal estate of Leighton Buzzard,

the paryshe chirche and prebend of leighton bosserd in the countie of Bedford, on the oon partie,

And william Johnson, of Leighton bosserd aforesaide, gentilman, on the other partie,

Witnessyth that the sayd Iohn Chambre, by and with the assent and consent of the Reuerend fiadre in god Iohn bisshope of the Cathedrall chirche of owre lady Saincte Mary of Lincoln, And the deane & Chapitor of the same Cathedrall chirche, hath dimised graunted and by these presentes to ferme letten vnto the said Willyam all that his personage and prebend aforesayd, with the Mansyon Howses, bildynges, and edifies of the same, and all the glebe londes, and other tenementes, medowes, leses,¹ pastures, and ffedynges, with the baylywikes, and all maner rentes, profyttes of courtes temporall, with allmaner tithes, oblacions, emolumentes, offerynges, profyttes, and other commodities what so euer they be, with there appurtenaunces, to the said personage and prebend in eny maner of wyse apperteynyng and belongyng

(but reserving the advowson of the church, and (in the rectory-house) the use of the hall and two bed-chambers, with stable-room for ten horses, as often as the prebendary visits Leighton Buzzard),

(Except and allway reserved vnto the sayd Iohn Chambre and his successours the advoson of the vicarige of the sayd parishe churche and prebend as often as it shall happen to fall voyde duryng the said terme; And excepte and also reserved vnto the same Iohn and his successours duryng the said terme the hall with twoo Chambers and sufficient stabellyng for x. horses when and as often as it shall please the said Iohn Chambre and his successours to repayre and come to the same).

To haue and to holde all the said personage and prebend, Mansion-houses, bildynges, edifices, londes, tenementes, medowes, leses, pastures, feydynges, baylywykes, rentes, profyttes of the said courtes temporall, tithes, oblacions, emolumentes, offerynges, profyttes, and other commodyties, with all and singuler there appurtenaunces (Except before excepted) to the said wylyam from the feste of thannunciacion of owre lady saincte mary laste paste before the making hereof vnto the ende and terme of xxxvj. yeres then next ensuyng and fully to be complette

for 36 years, at yearly rent of £76 13s. 4d., payable half-yearly.

yeldyng and payng therfore yerly, duryng the sayd terme, to the sayd Iohn Chambre and his successours lxxvjⁱⁱ xiijsⁱⁱⁱ iiij d.

¹ See note 1, p. 171.

of good and lafull monye of Englonde at twoo termes in the yere, That is to say, at the feste of the Natiuite of our lorde Ihesu christe, And the Natiuite of saincte Iohn baptiste by even porcions.

- 5 And the sayd Iohn Chambre covenauith and grauntyth to the sayd willyam that the same Iohn and his successours at there propre costes and charges shall well and sufficiently, from tyme to tyme duryng the sayd terme (as often as nede shall requyre), repayre, amend, and make tenauntable all and singuler
 10 the said Mansion-howses, bildynges, edifies, and the Chauncell of the sayd *parishe* chirche and prebend.

The lessor is to keep in repair the buildings of the prebend and the chancel of the church,

- And also bere and pay all and singuler rentes, Dismes, and other chardges, what so ever they be, aswell now graunted or hereafter to be graunted to owre soueraigne lorde the kyng,
 15 as other Ordinary chardges to eny person or persons due or to be due, goyng owt of the said Prebend and *parishe* chirche or other the premisses; and therof clerely acqyte, discharge, saue and kepe harmeles, the sayd William and his executours duryng the said terme,

and to pay all taxes to the king and other dues payable by the prebend,

- 20 except only that the sayd willyam and his executours, at there propre costes and Chardges, shall as often as nede requirythe, duryng the sayd terme, mayntayne kepe and supporte the walles of the sayd Mansion-howses, bildinges, and edifies, hornhighe, and them so to leue in thende of the said terme:

but the lessee is to repair the walls of the buildings 'hornhigh'.

- 25 And if it fortune the sayd yerely rente of lxxvj^{li} xiijs iiijd. or eny parte therof to be behynde and not payde by the space of vj. weykes next after eny of the sayd festes in the which itt owght to be payde, That then it shalbe lefull vnto the sayd Iohn Chambre and his successours into all the sayd personage
 30 and prebend, Mansion-howses, and into euery other of the premisses, with ther appurtenaunces, holy to reenter, and the said william therof vtterly to expell, and them to haue and repossede in his fyrste astate, this indenture not withstondyng.

Right of re-entry reserved, if rent be unpaid.

- Provyded allway, that if it fortune the said william to dye
 35 within the said terme of xxxvj^{ti} yeres, and the executours of the sayd Willyam do not offre them selve to do and pay as moche mony yerely to the said Iohn Chambre and his successours for the fferme of the premisses as eny other person or persons will do and paye for the same, That then the sayd terme

Lease may be cancelled at death of lessee, at the option of the lessor.

to cesse and be voyde; And it shalbe lafull to the sayd Iohn Chambre and his successours into the sayd personage and prebende, and into all and singuler other the premisses, holy to reenter, this Indenture not withstondyng.

In wytnes wherof the parties above sayd to these presentes 5 Indentures interchaungeably haue setto there seales the day and yere aboue Wrytten.

XLVI: Orders, 1535, by John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, for the publication throughout the diocese of Lincoln of Henry VIII's repudiation of the Pope's Supremacy in the Church of England.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 260 bk. and lf. 261.

A 'locus exemptus' was a parish, or religious house, which was not subject to the ordinary jurisdictions of the Bishop of the Diocese and the Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry in which it lay, but was under the jurisdiction of an external authority. Thus, in Essex, certain parishes were not subject to the Bishop of London (the diocesan), or to the Archdeacon of Essex (or Colchester), but to the Archbishop of Canterbury; others, to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, London. Such places were also called 'Peculiars'. Occasionally, in virtue of special orders issued by the Crown or the Primate, the Diocesan assumed authority, for some definite purpose, over these *loci exempti*, or 'Peculiars', and so here.

[I. *Directions contained in bishop John Longland's covering letter.*]

19 June, 1535, * John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, calls upon all clergy of whatever status under his jurisdiction, to publish, in all the churches of his diocese, Henry VIII's pronouncement against the Pope.

Iohannes, permissione diuina Lincolniensis Episcopus, Vniuersis et singulis Abbatibus, Prioribus, Decanis, Prepositis, Gardianis, Rectoribus, Vicariis, Capellanis, Curatis, et alijs 10 quibuscunque Ecclesiasticis personis, vbilibet intra Diocesim et Iurisdiccione[m] nostras existentibus, tam in locis exemptis quam non exemptis, Salutem gratiam et benedictionem.

declaratio expulsionis vsurpate iurisdictionis episcopi Romani.

Acceptis litteris serenissimi, illustrissimi, et potentissimi principis et domini nostri, domini Henrici octau[i], dei gracia Anglie et ffrancie Regis, fidei Defensoris, et Domini hibernie, Ac in terris supremi ecclesie anglicane capitis, nobis directis

* lf. 260 bk.

ac eiusdem regie maiestatis ad infrascripta exequenda mandata¹ continentibus.

Vobis ex parte eiusdem regie maiestatis mandantes, quibus etiam nos firmiter iniungendo mandamus, quatenus singulis
 5 diebus dominicis et solempnibus festis proxime post intimacionem presentium sequentibus, intra missarum aut vesperarum officia, dum maior affuerit populi multitudo, in Ecclesijs vestris publicetis seu publicari faciatis populo, Verbis anglicanis, integrum et perfectum tenorem verborum sequentium:

The publication is to be in English, on a Sunday or Holy-day, immediately after receipt of this order, before as large a congregation as possible, either at mass or at vespers.

[II. *Form of English Declaration to be publicly read in all churches.*]

10 Ye shall vnderstande that the vnlauffull Iurisdiccio[n], powre, and authoryte, of longe tyme vsurped by the bisshope of rome in this realme, who then was called 'pope', is nowe by gods lawe, iustely, lauffully, and vpon good groundes, reasons, and causes, by auctorite of parliament, and by and with the hole
 15 consent and agrement of all the bisshops, prelates, and bothe the vniuersities of oxforthe & Cambridge, and also the hole clergie of this realme, extincte and ceased for euer and of [no] strenghe, value, or effecte, in this realme of England.

Form of English words in which the publication is to be made, altogether rejecting the Pope's Supremacy,

In wiche realme the sayd hole clergie, Bisshops, prelates, and
 20 either of the convocacions of bothe provinces, with also the vniuersities of oxforthe and Cambridge, haue, accordyng to godes lawes, and vpon good and lauffull reasons and groundes, knowleged the kynge's highnes to be supreme hede in erthe immediatly vndre god of the chirche of Englande;

and declaring that the acknowledgement, by the clergy, of the king as supreme head on earth of the Church of England, has been ratified by Parliament, and ought to be assiduously taught throughout England.

25 whiche² there knowlege confessed, beyng nowe by parliament establisshed and by gods lawes Iustifiable to be iustely executed, Soo ought euery true christen subiecte of this realme not oonly to knowlege and obedyently to recognise the kynges highnes to be supreme hede in erthe of the churche of England,
 30 but also to speke, publisse, and teache there children and seruantes the same, and to shewe vnto them howe that the sayd bisshope of Rome hath heretofore vsurped not onlye vpon god, but also vpon princes of this realme and there progenitors;

Wherfore, and to thentent ye shold the better beleue me, and

¹ MS. has 'mandatum'.

² = this acknowledgement made by them.

If you doubt
this proclama-
tion, pray
come and
see it under
seal of the
Diocesan.

and take * and receue the truthe as ye ought to do : I declare
this ¹ vnto you, not onely of my selfe, whiche I knowe to be true,
but also declare vnto you tha[t] the same is certified to me ffrom
the mowthe of myn ordinary the bisshope of Lincoln vndre his
seale, Whiche I haue here redy to shewe you.

5

[III. *Latin order to all Schoolmasters to teach the King's
Supremacy.*]

All school-
masters are to
teach their
boys this
declaration.

Mandamus preterea, quatenus singulis ludi-Magistris in vestris
Abbatijs, prioratibus, aut parochijs existentibus, et alijs qui
pueritiam docent grammaticam, nomine ² nostro, similiter man-
detis, vt de premissis pueritiam instruant quatenus captus ³
ingenij patiat. 10

[IV. *Latin order to correct all Church books, and reduce them
to obedience to this mandate.*]

The word
'Pope' is to be
erased from all
books in
churches,
and every
expression is
to be struck
out which
seems in any
way either to
countenance
the Pope's
claim or to
impugn the
king's supre-
macy,

Mandamus insuper, vt, in quibuscumque libris, sacris siue
prophanis, intra Ecclesias vestras existentibus, et in quacumque
earundem parte textu siue rubrica, nomen 'pape' nominatum
aut ⁴ signatum vt nominetur reperiat, 15

et quicquid in publicis secretisve ⁵ collectis et oracionibus, ¹⁵
sentenciaque generali ⁶ quotannis quater declarari solita, legi
dici aut commemorari solet aut posset, quo ad potestatis,
Iurisdiccioni, aut autoritatis eiusdem conseruacionem aut
ampli[fi]cationem pertinere, siue iurisdiccioni sacratissime
regie maiestatis predictae quouis pacto derogare posse videatur, ²⁰
id omne, quam celerrime, omni cum diligentia, expungatis ac
deleatis, aut expungi et deleri faciatis,

under pain
and penalty.

Omniaque et singula predicta vt superius explicauimus,
facere non omittatis, sub pena contemptus.

* If. 261.

¹ Notice the Latin order and
loose grammatical structure = I de-
clare unto you this, which I knowe
to be true; not only of my selfe,
but also declare . . .

² i. e. using the bishop's name as
authority for giving such direction.

³ i. e. as far as their juvenile
understanding can take it in.

⁴ i. e. either written in full

('Papa'), or expressed in any
equivalent contraction ('P.').

⁵ The *Secretum* was a collect at
Mass not read aloud ('publica
collecta'), but repeated by the
celebrant in a low voice: see p. 12.

⁶ i. e. at the quarterly commemo-
ration of benefactors of a church,
when a list of persons to be prayed
for was read out: see pp. 64, 215,
216.

Datum nostro sub Sigillo, In Manerio nostro de wooborn, Decimo nono die mensis Iunij, Anno domini Millesimo Quingentesimo Tricesimo quinto, Et nostre Consecracionis Anno decimo quinto.

Sealed at Wooburn manor, 19 June, 1535, in the 15th year of the bishop's consecration.

XLVII: Will, 1535, of William Gybbyns, farmer, of Hambledon, Rutland.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 263 and lf. 263 bk.

** Testamentum Willhelmi gybbyns de Hamulden.*

5 In the name of god, Amen. In the yere of our lorde god a 24 July, 1535. I thousande five hundrede five and thirty and the xxiiijth daye of Iulij: I, william gybbyns, of hoole mynde, maketh my testament and will in this maner, of forme folowinge.—

ffirste, I bequethe my soule to almighty god, fadre of heuen; Burial in
10 to our ladye saynte marye; and to all the company in heuen; Hambledon church.
my bodye to lye in the chirche of hamulden afore the fonte stone.

Item, I bequith to the modre chirche off lincoln, ij d.

Item, I bequeth to the highe aulter in the chirche of Hamulden, xx d.; Item, to the rode light, iij s. iij d.

15 Item, to our ladye light in the † chauncell, iij s. iij d., if soo be that any of the parishe will give more therto that itt maye be maade suche a stocke that the chirche boxe be nomore chardged with that light.

Bequests to Hambledon church.

Proposal to endow permanently a light in Hambledon chancel.

Item, I bequethe to euery light within the chirche of hamulden
20 that hathe a stocke, iij d.; Item, to all soulen light, xij d.

Item, I bequethe to Iohn Clerke, oon calffe, called a weyner.¹ Personal bequests.

Item, I bequethe to Rauff, my sonne, all my horses, with my ploughes, cartes, and all that belongeth therto.

Item, I will that Rauff my sone shall haue halffe of all maner
25 of graynes and corne growinge in my ferme, soo that his own parte shalbe counted to make the halffe of the saide graynes and corne.

Item, I will that Rauff my sone shall haue the thirde parte of all maner vessell belonging to the kitchyn, bothe of powder
30 vessell and of brasse.

Item, I bequethe to Rauff, my sonne, oon basou of tynne, oon chaffingdishe, twoo candelstickes, oon bedde called the maydens

* lf. 263.

† lf. 263 bk.

¹ = one that has been weaned.

bedde with all that belongeth to the saide bedde, with the paynted clothes hanginge in the hall and in the parlour.

Item, I bequethe to Rauff, my sonne, x. landes¹ and all my hogges excepte oon bcore.

Item, I bequethe to margarette adeyn oon paire of shetes, 5 and twoo siluer spones.

Item, I bequethe to Issabell Mallett oon paire of shetes, and twoo spones.

Item, I bequethe to margery Aldridge oon paire of shetes, and x. shepe. 10

Item, I bequethe to william my sonne, x. shepe of bothe kyndes (ewes and wedres), and oon brasse potte.

Item, I bequethe to euery godchilde of myne within the parishe of Hamulden, iiij d.

Item, I bequethe to euery childe of my children begotten and 15 nott maryed, iiij d.

Item, I bequethe to Iohn my sonne, x. shepe.

Item, I bequethe to Thomas my sonne, x. shepe.

Executors
named, with
instructions to
them,

The residue of my goodes, nott willed nor bequethed, I will and bequethe to Iohn my sonne and to Thomas my sonne, whome 20 I ordeyne and make myne executours.

And I will that the saide Iohn and Thomas shall vse and occupye the halffe of my ferme with my sonne Rauff, frome the tyme of my departynge frome this present worlde vnto the feaste² of saynte mighell next folowinge; And I will that my 25 sonnes Iohn and Thomas shall mynystre and dispose the prouffett that cometh of halffe my fferme, With my goodes nott given nor bequethed, for my soule and for the soule of my wiffe.

and Overseer
of the will.

And I will and ordeyne david Almgill, chauntrye priste in Hamulden, ouersear of this my will; and he shall haue iij s. iiij d. 30 for his labour.

Thise wittenes: david Almgill, chauntry priste; william gibbyns; Rauff gibbyns; Iohn Roccold, with other moo.

Proved,
14 December,
1585, before
John Long-

Probatum fuit presens suprascriptum testamentum coram Reuerendo in christo patre et domino, domino Iohanne, permis- 35 sione diuina Lincolnensi Episcopo, xiiij^{to} die mensis decembris,

¹ In the MS. 'landes' is struck out. It is either in error for 'lambes', or else the three words 'x. landes and' should be cancelled.

² MS. has 'friste'.

Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxv^{to}; commissa ad- ministracione bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti executoribus in huiusmodi testamento nominatis, in forma iuris iuratis, &c.

XLVIII: Will, 1535, of William Balon *alias* Benett, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 263.

* **I**n dei nomine, amen. Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo 8 October, 1535,
5 **I** xxxv^{to} tertio die octobris, I, william balon otherwise called benett, of a hoole mynde, make my will on
Testamentum this maner.
W. balon de firste, I bequeth my soule to almighty
Agmondesham. god; and my bodye to be buried in the
10 churche off Agmondesham.

Also, I bequethe vnto the mother chirche off Lincoln, ijd.

Also, I bequethe vnto the highe aluter, iiij d.

Also, I bequethe my godes moveable and vnmoeable (after
my dettes be paid and my will fulfilled) betwyxte Alice my
15 wiffe, Iohn, and William my sonnes, equally to be devyded
betwene them thre persones.

And iff any of my sonnes dye or euer they come to age, the
longer liver to haue the other his parte; And¹ they be both
deade or² that they be come to age, I will that the goodes goo
20 to the prouffett off my soule and all christen soules to the mayn-
tenaunce of a priste to singe for my soule and all christen soules.

Also, I doo make Alice my wiffe and Iohn my sone my full
executours; and Roger benett and Richard Cuttler, ouersears
to see this my will be fulfilled.

25 Wittenes to this: Sir Iohn polkyns, curate of Agmondesham;
Iohn balon; Roger benett; and Richard Cuttler.

Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram reuerendo in
christo patre et domino, domino Iohanne, permissione diuina
Lincolniensi Episcopo, tertio die mensis Nouembris, anno
30 domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxv^{to}, commissa adminis-
tracione bonorum alicie relicte, executrici nominate, Reseruata
potestate consimilem committendi administracionem Iohanni
filio suo, alteri executori, quum venerit eandem recepturus, &c.

* lf. 263.

¹ and = and if.

² or = or ever, before.

land, bishop
of Lincoln.

Burial in
Amersham
church.

Bequest to
Amersham
church.
Disposal of
testator's
estate.

A chantry to
be founded if
testator's sons
die before
coming of age.

Executors and
Overscers of
the will named.

Proved,
8 Nov., 1535,
before John
Longland,
bishop of
Lincoln.

XLIX: Two letters, 1535, 1536, addressed by John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, to the Archdeacons of his diocese, in connexion with Henry VIII's orders as to Preachers and as to Bidding-Prayers.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 266 bk. By a singular oversight the dates of both letters are omitted. No copy of the Orders referred to is contained in the Register, but their import may be gathered from the letters themselves, as well as from the summary given in Froude's *History*.

The first letter contains an odd bit of indirect evidence as to the slowness with which even those in authority recognized the usefulness of the printer's art. Although it was clearly of importance that every cleric should know exactly the terms of the Orders he was called upon to observe, no printed copy of these Orders was distributed, but individual clerics were invited to write out each a copy for himself. In 153 $\frac{6}{7}$ (No. LV) printed copies of the King's Orders were provided for distribution.

The Orders issued as to preachers were intended to prevent pulpit handling of the controversy as to the supremacy of the King or of the Pope over the Church of England. To that end, preachers were forbidden to handle controversial topics in their sermons, and to confine themselves to exhortations to fear God and honour the King. This was the precedent followed¹ by Laud and Charles I, 1630 and onwards, in respect of the fierce controversy then waged as to predestination, when they forbade preachers to discuss the burning question of the hour. In both instances, authority was defied. Preachers and congregations were too keenly interested in the forbidden topic to leave off discussing it.

Further, no cleric was to presume to preach unless he had had a licence to preach granted him by his Bishop or Archdeacon. Care would, of course, be taken to refuse a licence to any cleric who was notoriously opposed to the King's claims.

Because of the general contempt shown to these Orders, in his second letter, a year later in date, the bishop ordered the provision, and due keeping, of a register of preachers in every church, with a note of the subject touched on in each sermon. Following up this idea, the Archdeacons, till quite recent years, at their every Visitation, were very urgent with the Church-

¹ Clark's *Lincoln College* (1898), pp. 67, 68.

wardens of each parish to provide 'a Book of Strange Preachers' and see that entries were duly made in it.

Each sermon was at this time preceded by the Bidding-prayer, so called because in it the preacher asked the congregation to pray¹ for the persons, or the souls of persons departed, whom he specially commended to them. The terms of this prayer were left very much to the preacher himself, as he might feel himself directed by the statutes of the College to which he belonged or of the Chantry which he served. No doubt, preachers, up till now, had been in the habit of beginning their bidding-prayer with the words, 'Ye shall pray for the holy father, the pope'; and this was now forbidden. The bidding-prayer is still in use in Oxford before University Sermons in St. Mary's Church and City Sermons in the church of All Saints and St. Martin's, but in both cases the prayer now follows a printed form.

In the Register, on lf. 267, immediately after the two letters, two inhibitions are enrolled, one addressed to John Vvall, Warden of the Friars Minors of Bedford, the other to Edmund Philipps, rector of Maulden, Bedfordshire, cancelling their licences to preach and forbidding them to preach; dated, Old Temple, London, 11 March, 1535[⁵/₆].

[*First Letter*: 1535 (?).]

* I commende me vnto you. And here doo sende vnto you
I certeyn wrytinges *de modo predicandi et in sermonibus*
orandi, whiche euery busshope hathe in commaundement to
cause itt to be shewed and notyfyed to the clergie of his dyoces,
5 as well to seculer as regular, exempte² and nott exempte, with
spede, And by them to be putt in the execucion accordinge vnto
the tenour therof.

John Long-land, bishop of Lincoln, sends his Archdeacons the King's orders as to sermons and bidding-prayers. The Archdeacons must see that all clerics, of whatever sort (but especially those connected with convents), are informed of these orders, and have leave to take a copy of them; and must report all recalcitrant clerics.

And if ye shall knowe any persone³ refuse this ordre, to give
notyce therof vnto me.

10 Sende ye forthe your apparytours that they maye call euery
deaury⁴ by ther selves, And where they doo appere, Rede ye
itt openly vnto them.

And if any persone will haue the cotype therof, lett hym haue itt.
ye muste haue present ther, att the leste, all the heedes or

* lf. 266 bk.

¹ 'bede'.

church, i. e. parson.

² See note 1, p. 216.

⁴ i. e. the clergy of every Rural

³ persone = *persona*, rector of a Deanery.

seniours of euery religiouse house of men, And the prystes of religiouse houses of women.

These saide wrytinges that I nowe sende you ar subscribed *manibus Episcoporum*.

This cause ye to be doon spedily throughte your office, And 5
offre an example of the saide wrytinges vnto euery priste that will write them oute.

[Second Letter : 1536 (?).]

John Long-land, bishop of Lincoln, makes his moan to his Archdeacons, that his instructions as to sermons and bidding-prayers have been generally set aside;

I commende me in harty wise vnto you: And where I sent vnto you, the laste yere, my *lettres*, with certayne wrytinges inclosed in the same *de modo predicandi et in sermonibus orandi*, 10
with many other Instruccions in the same, whiche I doubte nott butt ye haue in your good remembraunce and also in your custodye, Commaundinge you to giue notyce and knowledge thereof vnto all the clergie *within* your Archdeaconry, as well exempte as nott exempte, And that if ye didde knowe any 15
persone to refuse that ordre, or otherwise behaue hym selffe, to give me knowledge thereof: yett, that commaundement nott withstandinge, I am enformed that some temerouse, presumptuouse, and vndiscrete persones there be within your office that dothe to the contrary, 20

that many licensed preachers openly handle controversial topics;

And in ther *sermondes* dothe treate and dispute suche opynytive matters and doubtes as dothe radre gendre contraryetie and dissencion, than necessarye thinges apte for his audience or for the encrease of vertue and truthe,

and many clerics, not licensed to preach, are allowed by incumbents of parishes to preach in their churches. The Archdeacons must report to the bishop the names of all preachers who transgress the bishop's order by preaching on controversial points, or without licence; the names of all incumbents who allow unlicensed preachers to preach in their church;

And many of them nott auctorized to preache, And yett ar, 25
by you and the curates, permytted and suffrede, contrarye vnto the said commaundement.

In consideracion whereof, I chardge you frome hensforthe to haue suche an eye, dyligent ouersight, and inquirye in these premysses, that I maye with spede be certefied by you the 30
names, aswell of all suche as hathe transgressed the saide ordre and commaundement, as of them that dothe preache any contencyous doubtfull matters, or without authoryte;

And also of all suche curates that dothe admytte or suffre any suche nott auctorized persones to preache *within* ther 35
chirches; And all suche as settithe forthe the busshope of

names of all incumbents who allow unlicensed preachers to preach in and the names of all who advocate the Pope's Supremacy.

Rome his vsurped iurisdiccio[n] or authoritye, if any suche be, To thintent suche transgressours maye be knowne and ordrede accordingly.

And that ye giue especiall commaundement to all
5 curates frome hensforthe to noote in a bill the names of
euery oon that shall hereafter preache *within* ther
chirches, and by whose authoritye they doo come, And
howe they doo vse ther selues in ther *sermondes*; And
to certefye you by ther wrytinges oones euery terme:
10 And you to sende vnto me, or to my chancelour, ther
saide certifycates, to thintent itt maye be knowen howe
euery oon dothe vse them selues.

Thus fayle ye nott to doo *with* spede, as ye will
aunswere therunto.

Every incumbent must in future keep a 'Preachers' Book', in which he is to record the name of every stranger who preaches in his church, with said stranger's licence to preach, and the subject he handled. The Archdeacons are to send to the Bishop a quarterly summary of the entries in the 'Preachers' Book' of every parish.

L: Lease, 153⁵₈, of the estate at Cropredy, Oxfordshire, belonging to the prebend of Cropredy in Lincoln Minster.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 233 to lf. 284 bk. The provisions as to security are exceptionally precise. The special proviso as to the place of payment attests the insecurity of the roads, then infested by footpads and mounted highwaymen. The landlord avoids the risk of being robbed of the rent in its conveyance to his house from the place where the estate is, and imposes on the tenant the liability for its safe carriage.

[*L. Full Text of the Indenture.*]

15 * **T**his Indenture made the xxth daye of ffebruarye In the
xxvijth yere of the Raigne of our soueraigne lorde kynge
henry the eight
Cropredy Betwene Master Richard Wolman, clerke, pre-
prebende bendary of the prebend of Croperedy in the countie
Indentura. of oxon of the oone partye, And william gifforde of
20 thrope moundvyll in the countie off Northampton and george
Gifforde brother vnto the said william gifforde, gentlemen, of
the other partye, William and George Gifford
(of Thorpe Mandeville, Northampton-
shire),

Witnessyth that the said master Richard wolman hathe
25 demysed graunted and to fferme lett, And by these presentes
dothe demyse graunte and to fferme lett, vnto the aforesaid

* lf. 233.

his prebend of
Cropredy,

(but reserving
the woods, the
spiritual juris-
diction, and
the advowson,)
for 80 years,

at the yearly
rent of £50,
payable half-
yearly.

[Special pro-
viso as to place
of payment.]

Power of re-
entry reserved,
if rent remain
unpaid.

william gifforde and george gifforde, his said prebend of Cropredy, with all the houses messuages landes Rentes tithes and all other oblacions emolumentes and prouffettes therunto belonging, reputed, and taken as parte and parcell of the same prebend (as¹ woodes, the spirituall iurisdicción, the advowson 5 and giff of the vicarage of Cropredy aforesaid, to the said master Richard and his successours excepted and reserued);

To haue & to holde the foresaid prebend, houses, Rentes, tythes, and all other emolumentes and prouffettes aforesaid (except before excepted), to the said william gifforde and george 10 gifford and to ther assignes, ffrom the ffeaste of thannunciacion of our lady next ensuyng after the date hereof vnto thende and terme of Thyrtie yeres then next ffolowyng fully to be complet and ended,

. yeldyng and payng therfore yerely duryng the terme aforesaid 15 vnto * the said master Richard wolman and to his successours ffyfty poundes sterlinge att twoo ffeastes in the yere, that is to saye, att the ffeaste of saincte Michael tharchangell and thannunciacion of our blessed lady saincte Mary by euen porcions, or within three wykes next after euery of the said ffeastes, The 20 same Rent to be payd yerely duryng the liffe of the sayd master Richard wolman att the mansion houses of the said master Richard within the towne of westminster in the countie of Middlesexe.

And if itt happen the said yerely Rent of ffyfty poundes or 25 eny parte therof to be behynde vnpayde in parte or in all vnto the said master Richard wolman duryng his liffe att the said mansion house within the said towne of westmester after eny of the foresaid ffeastes in whiche itt ought to be paide by the space of three monethes, or after the decesse of the said master Richard 30 woleman to be behynde vnpayd vnto eny of his successours by the foresaid tyme and space of three monethes & a daye, att the parishe chirche of Cropredy aforesaid, that then and ffrom thensforthe ytt shalbe lafull vnto the said masfer Richard woleman, and his Successours, into the said prebend and all other 35 the premisses afore letten, And into euery parcell therof, to reentre And the same to repossede and inioye as in his or ther former

* If. 283. bk.

1 'as' is an error of transcription, possibly for 'all'.

estate, these indentures or eny thing therin conteyned to the contrary notwithstanding.

And alsoo the said william and george couenauntyth and graunteth and ether of them Seuerally couenaunteth and
5 graunteth by hym selffe for hym his executours and assignes with the said master Richard woleman and his successours that they the said william Gyfford and George gifforde ther executours and assignes shall yerely duryng the said terme of thirtie yeres
att the proper costes and chardgies of the said william and
10 george, bere, content, and paye aswell A certyn yerely pension or annuell Rent called a sept^t disme yerely goynge out of the said prebend vnto the deane and Chapitour of the Cathedrall churche of lincoln, As also all other chardgies whiche of olde tyme hathe bene due and customably payd vnto the deane and chapitre of
15 the said chirche of lincoln And of all the same shall clerly acquyte and dischargde the said master Richard and his successours duryng the said terme.

The lessees undertake to pay regularly to Lincoln Minster the dues payable to it by the prebend.

And that the said william and george, ther executors and assignes, att ther own propre costes and chardgies, shall yerely
20 duryng the fforesaid terme of xxx^{ti} yeres repare vpholde mayntene and susteyne all the houses and buyldynges of the said prebende in all maner of Reparacions, And in all hedgyng and dychynge belongyng vnto the said prebend or eny parte therof, And the same houses byldynges hedgys and dyches, soo suffy-
25 cyently repared maynteyned and susteyned, in the ende of the said terme of yeres shall leve and yelde vppe, Except in gret tymber whiche the said master Richard and his successours att the resonable requeste of the said william and george, and ether
of them, there executours and assignes, shall ffynde and delyuer
30 att his or there propre costes and chardgies duryng the said terme when and as often as nede shall requyre.

The lessees are to bear all charges of repairs and fencing,

but where such repairs involve use of great timber, that timber is to be supplied by the lessor.

Provyded allwayes that itt shall not be lafull vnto the said william and george, nor to ether of them, ther executors, or assignes, att eny tyme within the foresaid terme of thirtie yeres
35 to fiell, cute downe, or carry away, eny tree or trees standing or growyng in or vpon eny of the premisses to them before lett, withoute the lycence and consent of the said master Richard woleman or of his deputye duryng his liffe, And (after his discease) of his Successours ther, therein before hadde and obteyned.

No tree to be felled without licence previously obtained from the lessor.

If either lessee die during the term of the lease, the survivor must find a sufficient surety to enter into bond of £66 13s. 4d. for the due payment of the rent and the due fulfilment of the lessees' further covenants.

Provyded allwayes, and the said william and george covenante and graunte and ether of hym by them selffe (*sic*) couenaunteth and graunteth for him and his executours by these presentes to and with the said master Richard woleman and his successours that if itt happen ether of the said william and george to dye 5 within the said terme of thirtie yeres that then the Suruiuoür and longer lyuer of the said william and george within oone quarter of a yere next after the decease of hym that firste dothe soo decease shall flynde vnto the said master Richard woleman or his Successours for the tyme beyng oone other hable & 10 sufficyent * person to be bounde with hym that dothe soo survyve Ioyntly and Seuerally vnto the said master Richard wolman, or to his successours, in the some of oone hundreth markes sterlinge, aswell for the true contentacion and payment of the said yerely rent off ffyfty poundes to be due and payable 15 after the decease of hym that soo dothe firste decease duryng the Residue of the fforesaid terme of yeres whiche shalbe then to come, As also for the true performance of all and euery the couenauntes grauntes and agrementes comprised in this indenture, whiche vpon the behaf of the said william or george soo 20 survyvinge shalbe then to be performed and kept.

If the second lessee die during the term of the lease, a fresh surety is to be found, under the same conditions,

Provyded alsoo, and the said william and george couenante & graunte and ether of them by hym selffe couenaunteth and graunteth for hym and his executors to and with the said master Richard woleman and his successours that, if itt fortune 25 the said william and george bothe to decease duryng the fforesaid terme of thirtie yeres, that then the executours administratours or assignes of the survivor of the said william or george, within one quarter of A yere next after the decease of the survivour of the said william and george, shall flynde vnto the said master 30 woleman or his successours for the tyme beyng oone other sufficyent hable and lafull person, whiche with the said executours, admynystratours, or assignes of the fforesaid survivour of the said william and george, shalbe bounde Ioyntly and seuerally vnto the said master Richard wolman or to his 35 successours for suche [time] beyng in the sune of one hundrith markes, aswell for the true contentacion and payment of the annuall rent of ffyfty poundes to be [due] and payable after the

decesse of the longiste lyver of the said william and george duryng the residue of the foresaide terme of yeres then to come, As also for the true execucion and performance of euery of the foresaid couenauntes, grauntes, [and] agrementes comprised in this indenture beyng then vpon the behalf of the said executours admynystratours or assignes duryng the residue of the foresaid terme of yeres to be performed fulfilled and kept, Accordyng vnto the purporte and effecte of this indenture. And soo euery executor, admynystratour, assigne or graunte¹ of the premisses before letten or of eny parcell therof ffrom tyme to tyme afterwarde shall ffynde like suerty vnto the said master Richard woleman and his successours after the decease of eny suertye whiche shalbe bounde as is before said and after² fortune to decease within the said terme of yeres, Soo that ther shall twoo suffycient persons ffrom tyme to tyme staunde allwayes bounden in the foresaid some of oone hundrith markes ffor the payment of the said annuall Rent of ffyfty poundes att the dayes and places before lymytted, And for the performance of all the couenauntes grauntes and agrementes before expressed, accordyng vnto the true meanyng and intent of the said partyes.

And furthermore the said Master Richard woleman couenaunteth and graunteth, that if the said william gifforde & george gifforde, ther executours and assignes, on this³ or ther parte or parties doo well and truely content and paye yerely vnto the said master woleman the fforesaid annuall Rent of ffyfty poundes att the aforesaid mansion house of the said master Richard wolman in the towne of westminster within the fforesaid tyme of three monethes next after ether of the said dayes of payment; And if the said master Richard woleman fortune to dye within the said terme of xxx^{vi} yeres, And, after that, the said william and george and ther assignes doo well and truely content and paye the said Rent of ffyfty poundes and euery parte therof vnto the Successors of the said master Richard att the dayes before lymytted or within three monethes and oone daye then next folowyng att the chirche in Cropredy before said; And observe, performe, fulfill and kepe, all and euery the

so that the lessor shall always have the guarantee of two sufficient sureties.

The lessees gave a bond to the amount of £66 13s. 4d. for the due fulfilment of the covenants expressed in this Indenture.

¹ 'graunte', i. e. 'grantee'.

³ 'this' by a slip for 'his'.

² 'after', i. e. afterwards.

other couenauntes grauntes and agrementes comprysed in this Indentures whiche on the behalf of the said william and george ther executours * and assignes ar to be obserued, performed, fulfilled, and kepte, accordyng vnto the purporte and effecte of this indenture, that then a obligacion aforesaid berynge date in 5 the daye of thise presentes wherin the said william and george ar and stande bounden vnto the said master Richard woleman and his successours in the sume of oone hundreth markes to be voyde and of none effecte orels to stande in his full strenghe vertue and power.

10

In witnes wherof the parties abovesaid to thiese indentures interchangeably haue sett ther seales.

Yoven the day and yere abovesayd.

[II. *Summary of the Confirmation.*]

Bishop John Longland's confirmation made use of the same formula as above, p. 173; but the blank spaces left for place and date of affixing his seal have not been filled in.

Et Nos Iohannes, permissione diuina, lincolniensis Episcopus, Concessionem, dimissionem, et locacionem, Ceterasque conuen- 15 ciones, in indenturis presentibus annexis specificatas, ratas habentes et gratas, Eas pro nobis et successoribus nostris, quantum in nobis est, ratificamus, approbamus, et confirmamus pro terminis et annis in eijsdem specificatis et expressis, iuxta omnem vim, formam, et effectum concessionis, Dimissionis, 20 locacionis, et conuencionum huiusmodi. Iuribus, &c. . . Datum [. . .] die mensis [. . .] Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxx [. . .].

LI: Lease, 1536, of St. John Baptist Hospital, Mere, Lincolnshire.

The Hospital not being legally a body corporate, the Warden for the time being could grant no lease which would be binding on his successor; and, therefore, in order to effect a valid lease for years, he had to call in, exactly as a prebendary had, the dominating authority of the bishop. The stipulations as to re-modelling of the buildings deserve special attention. So also those as to legal proceedings to be taken to repel encroachments on the estate.

* lf. 284 bk.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 272, lf. 272 bk., lf. 273.

Mere hospital (an extra-parochial place) was founded at Dunston (south-east of Lincoln city) by Simon de Roppele before A. D. 1246. The Mastership was in the gift of the bishop of Lincoln, or, if the see were vacant, of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln. After the Reformation, the property was settled on Lincoln Grammar School.—Dugdale, *Monasticon*, vi. 766; *Victoria County History (Lincolnshire)*, ii. 233.

[I. *Full Text of the Indenture.*]

* **T**his Indenture made the xxiiijth day of Aprill In xxviiijth Indenture, yere of the raigne of our moste dreade souereigne Lorde Henry VIII 23 April, 28 henry the viijth, kyng of England, of ffraunce, defendour of the faith, lorde of Irland, And in the Erthe supreme Lounde, War- den of Mere Hospital, 5 **Hospitalis de Mere Indentura.** Betwyne Sir Iohn Lounde of mere in the countie leases to Thomas Hall, of Coleby, Lin- colnshire, the manor and hospital of St. John Baptist, Mere, of Lincoln, chapeleyne and keper of thospitall of Saynet Iohn baptiste of mere before said, of the oon partie, And Thomas Hall off Colby besyde Navenby in the said 10 countie of Lincoln, *gentleman*, of that other partye, Wytnessythe that the forsaid Ser Iohn Lounde, chaplayne and keper of the sayd Hospytall, bathe graunted dymysed and to fferme letten and by these presentes grauntyth dymysyth and to fferme lettyth to the fforesaid Thomas Hall his manour 15 and hospitall of Mere beforesaid *with allmaner of landes, rentes, Closes, medowes, pastures, fennys, ffedynges, sheipe-gaittes, ffyshinges, woodes, rentes, prouffyttes of courtes and lettes,¹ of ffynes, Amercyamentes, wayffes, extrahies, with all and singuler rightes, avauntagies, and commodityes to the same manour and* 20 *hospitall in eny wise apperteynyng or belonging.* Excepte and reserued allway to the said chaplayne & keper (but reserving, and to his Successours keepers and chaplayns of the said for the use of the Warden hospitall for the tyme beyng oone honest Chamber with for the time being one good A Chymney in the same ffor the lodgyng of the said Chaplayne room with a fire-place for 25 and keaper and his seruante, *with stable Rome ffor twoo himself and his man- horses and Lytter for the same horses att suche and all tymes servant, and as he shalbe resydent and abydyng vpon the same hospitall.* stabling and litter for their To haue and to holde the said maner and hospitall, *with the* two horses,

* lf. 272.

¹ i. e. leets.

when the
Warden is at
Mere),
for 21 years,

appurtenaunces, and other the premisses, except before except, to the sayd Thomas hall and his assignes, from the day of the date of theis present Indentures vnto the ende and terme of Twentie and oone yeres then next and immediately folowyng, fully to be accomplyshyd and endyde. 5

at the net
yearly rent of
£5 6s. 8d.,
payable half-
yearly.

Yeldyng and paying yerely duryng the said terme, for the same, to the sayd Ser Iohn Lounde and to his Successours, Chaplayns and keapers of the sayd hospitall, five poundes six shillinges and eight pence of good and Lawfull money of Englande att the feastes of Sayncte mychaell tharchangell and thannun- 10
ciacion of our lady yerely by eyn porcions to be payd.

Lessee is to
pay all quit-
rents, and all
charges
(ordinary or
extraordinary)
due by the
Hospital
(except Tenths
& First-fruits,
for which the
Warden is to
be responsible).

Also, the foresaid Thomas hall dothe couenaunte and graunte that he his executors and assignes shall beare & susteyne the chardges of all and synguler paymentes of owt rentes and other resolucions (aswell ordynary as extraordinary), Excepte the 15
yerely payment of the kinges tenthe[s] and of the ffirst fructes of and for the same hospitall whan soeuer they shall chaunce to be due, whiche tenthes & ffirst fructes shall alway be paid by the said Chaplayne and keaper and his Successours.

Lessee is to be
solely responsi-
ble for repairs.

And, moreouer, the said Thomas hall his executours & assignes 20
shall beare & susteyne the chardges of all and singuler re-
paracions to be maide in & vpon the sayde hospitall and of the howses and byldynges belongyng to the same, at his and there propre costes and chardges, duryng the said terme; and in the ende of the said terme the said Thomas his executours and 25
assignes shall leiffe and give vp the said hospitall suffyciently reparyd, as is beforesaid.

Lessee is to
have power to
alter the
buildings into
the form
most con-
venient for
himself, pro-
vided the
buildings at
the end of the
lease are
sufficient.

Neuerthelesse itt is couenaunted & agreed betwyne the said parties that the foresaid Thomas hall his executors or assignes shall and may haue power and libertye to allder and chaunge 30
& transforme the howses and buyldynges of the said hospitall att his or thaire * own will and pleasour, and for his and thaire moste prouffite and commodytie, soo and forsean allway that he and they leiff suffycient howses & buyldynges vpon the soylle and grounde within the syte of the fforesayd hospytall, meite, 35
necessary and conuenyent for the same, well and suffyciently reparyd, as is beforesaid.

Lessee is to

Also, itt is couenaunted & agreed betwyne the said parties

* If. 272 bk.

that the fforesaid Thomas hall his executors & assignes shall have power to
 and may at thaire own proper costes & chardges dicke, hedge, ground at his
 and quyksett the groundes & soille belongyng to the said pleasure, but
 hospitall att Mere to his and thaire moste prouffit, so & fforescan to be person-
 5 allway that the sayd Thomas hall his executors and assignes do ably answer-
 not therby offende the kynges statute in suche case provided violate the
 by conuertyng of landes lately vsed in Tillaige into pasture, recent Statute
 contrary to the tenor of eny suche statute: but if eny suche which forbids
 thing there be don it shall allway be att the peryll & chardge arable into
 10 of the said Thomas hall his ex[ec]cutours and assignes duryng pasture.
 the said terme.

Moreouer, the said Thomas hall his executours and assignes The lessee is
 shall take and haue, duryng the said terme, to and for thaire to have rea-
 necessarye ffeowell, reparacions, and buyldynges, woode & Tymber, sonable use of
 15 aswell in Mere okes as els where, soo that the same be spent wood and
 occupied & imployed vpon the same hospitall & in no other timber for
 place, withoute eny Escrippe or waste to be made of the fuel, for re-
 same in eny wise by the said Thomas hall his executours or pairs, and for
 assignes. buildings on the lands of the Hospital.

Also, itt is covenanted & agreed vpon the partie & behalf The lessee is
 of the foresaid Ser Iohn Lounde, that he shall allway duryng to bear the
 his interest in the fforesayd hospitall commense mayntayne & charge of any
 iustfyne in his own name all and singuler lafull accyons sewttes lawsuit that
 and pleys, and defend the same, for the conseruacion of the may be needed
 25 rightes of the said hospitall and of eny parcell of the same, to resist future
 and for the recoueryng agayne of the landes rentes and other abstraction of
 rightes ffrom the sayd hospitall heretofore withdrawen and Hospital
 taken away, And the costes & chardges in the lawe of the same lands, or to
 sewttes shall allway be boren & susteyned at the propre costes recover lands
 30 and chardges of the said Thomas hall his executours & assignes; already ab-
 And, for and yn recompence of the same costes & chardges, the stracted. But,
 said Thomas hall his executors and assignes shall haue and the rent is not
 inioue the sayd landes rentes and other rightes so lafully to be raised in
 to be recouered as parcell of his said ferme duryng the foresaid regard to any
 35 terme of xxjth yeres. lands which
 the lessee may
 so recover for
 the Hospital.

And if it happen the sayd yerely rent of v^{li} vj^s viij^d to be Right of dis-
 behynde & not paid in parte or in the hole by the space of traint is re-
 flourty dayes next after eny of the said feastes when it owght served, if rent
 to be paid, then itt shalbe lafull to the said Ser Iohn Lounde, be not
 promptly
 paid.

Chaplayn and keaper of the said hospitall and to his Successors, chaplayns & keepers of the same, to entre & distrayne ffor the said yerely rent & for eny parte & parcell of the same so beyng behynde & not paid as is before said, *with tharreragies* therof, if eny suche there be.

Right of re-entry is reserved, if distrain prove insufficient to recover the rent.

And if itt happen the said yerely rent of *v^{li} vjs viij^d* to be behynde and not payd, in the parte or in the hole, by the space of ffoure monethes next after eny of the said fleastes when itt owght to be payd as is beforesaid, if it be Asked at Mere beforesayd and no suffycyent distresse there ffounden, That then ¹⁰ it shalbe lafull to the said *ser* Iohn Lounde Chaplayne & keaper [*oper*¹ the sayd Iohn hall] and to his Successours chaplayns and keepers of the same to reentre to the same Manour & Hospitall of Mere beforesaid *with oper* the premisses and appurtenaunces beforesaid, And the said Thomas hall his ¹⁵ executours & assignes to put oute & expell ffrom *p^e* same, this present Lease or Indentures in enywise not *withstandyng*.

In Wytnes of all and synguler premysses, either of *p^e* parties abouenamed to this presente Indentures interchaungeably haue put there Seales, the day & yere aboue wrytten.

[II. *Full Text of the Confirmation.*]

John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, approving of the above lease as set out in the Indenture,

(reserving the rights of his See and of Lincoln Minster),

attaches his seal *ad causas* to the Indenture, at his lodging in Old

Et nos Iohannes, permissione diuina Lincolnensis episcopus, ex certis causis nos in ea parte iuste mouentibus, Concessionem, dimissionem, et locacionem, in indenturis presentibus * annexis specificatas, ratas habentes et gratas, eas pro nobis et successoribus nostris, quantum in nobis est, ratificamus, approbamus, et ²⁵ confirmamus pro terminis in eijsdem expressis, iuxta omnem vim formam et effectum Concessionis, dimissionis, et locacionis huiusmodi (Iuribus nostris episcopalibus, et ecclesie nostre Cathedralis beate marie Lincolnensis consuetudinibus ac dignitate in omnibus semper saluis).

In Quorum quidem ratificationis, approbacionis, et confirmationis fidem et testimonium, Sigillum nostrum ad causas presentibus apponi fecimus. Datum in hospitio nostro apud

* If. 273.

¹ These words are not only inserted in error, but are erroneous in themselves.

vetus templum London xxvii^{mo} die mensis februarij, Anno domini Millesimo Quingentesimo xxxvj^{to}, Et nostre consecra-
 cionis anno decimo Sexto. Temple,
London,
28 February,
1536/7.

LII. Lease, 1536, of the estates of the prebend of Carlton Kyme (otherwise called the prebend of Carlton cum Dalby) in Lincoln Minster.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, lf. 282 bk., and lf. 283. This lease brings into prominence an especially bad feature of all impropriated parishes where no provision had been made for a permanent vicar. The impropriator, whose only interests were to get as large a rent as he could, and to spare himself trouble as to his statutable church liabilities, made his bargain with his tenant that the tenant should be wholly responsible to the archdeacon and bishop for supply of the cure. Inasmuch as the lessee was, in most cases, the principal man in the place, there was little opening for criticism or complaint on the part of the parish.

[II. *Full Text of the Indenture.*]

* This Indenture made the xxijth day of Iune In the yere of
 5 T our lorde god A thousand fife hundreth and xxxvjth,
 Witnessyth that master william fleshe-
 Carlton kyme monger prebendary of Carlton kyme in the
 prebende cathedrall churche of Lincoln hath graunted
 Indentura. demysed and to fferme letten vnto Thomas
 10 dymmoke, esquier, his prebend of Carlton kyme aforesaid
 (otherwise called the prebend of Carlton cum Dalby), with all
 houses theron buylded, glebe Landes, medowes, pastures, com-
 munes, fiedynges, places, tythes, oblacions, Rentes, pensyons,
 proffettes, and all other and singuler commodityes and aduan-
 15 tagies, with ther appurtynauces, in eny maner of wise to the
 said prebende or eny parte or porcion therof belongyng or
 apperteynyng, in the countie of lincoln, in as ample and lardge
 maner as euer the saide Thomas dymmoke or eny other ffermours
 of the said prebend euer hadd vsed or occupied the same.
 20 To haue and to holde the said prebend and all other and
 singuler the premisses with ther appurtynauces in the countie
 aforesaid vnto the said Thomas Dymmoke, esquier, his executors,
 or assignes, ffrom the fleaste of sainte Michael tharchangell

Indenture,
22 June, 1536,
by which
William
Fleshemonger,
prebendary of
Carlton cum
Dalby, leases
to Thomas
Dymmoke,
his whole
prebend,

for 40 years,

* lf. 282 bk.

next commyng after the date herof vnto the ende and terme of ffortye yeres then next and immedyatly ffolowyng and ffully to be complete,

at the yearly
rent of
£5 6s. 8d.,
payable half-
yearly.

Yeldyng and payng therfore yerely vnto the said william fleshmonger, prebendary aforesaid, and his Successours, ffive 5 poundes sex shillinges and eight pence of lafull englishe money : that is to say, att the ffestes of thannunciacion of our lady and saint Michael tharchangell by euen porcions.

The lessee is
also to provide
a priest to
serve the cure
at North
Carlton, and a
priest to serve
the cure at
Dalby.

And more-ouer, the said Thomas dymmoke couenaunteth and graunteth to and with the said Master william fleshemonger, 10 and his successors, that he and his assignes shall yerely duryng the said terme ffynde twoo prestes to syng seuerally, oone at Carlton kyme, And the other att Dalby aforesayd, And to mynyster sacramentes and sacramentalles ther, att¹ his or there propre costes and chardgies.

Lessee to pay
regularly all
dues payable
by the prebend
to Lincoln
Minster.

And also shall paye yerely to the deane and Chapitour of the cathedrall church of Lincoln all sepdismes and mynystracions, that is to say, xxj s. v d., And for the admynystracions iij s. ij d., due of and for the sayd prebend duryng the said terme.

Lessee to be
responsible for
repairs, and to
leave the pre-
bendal pro-
perty in good
repair at the
end of the
lease.

And also the said thomas Dymmoke couenaunteth that he 20 and his assignes shall stande chardgied with thacke, mortar, and wallyng of all the said mansions of the said prebend duryng all the said terme, att his and ther costes * and chardgies, And soo suffyciently repayred with thacke mortar and wallyng att the ende of the said terme shall leve them.

Power of dis-
traint re-
served if rent
be not duly
paid.

And if itt happen the said Rent of v^{li} vj^s viij^d to be behynde and not paide att eny of the said ffestes that itt ought to be payd att And after by the space of xvth dayes, That then itt shalbe lafull vnto the said master william fleshmonger clerke and his successours to entre and distreyne And the distresse so 30 taken lafully to dryue carry awaye and empounde. And the same to witholde vnto suche tyme as he or they of the said Rent with the arreragies and the costes ffor the withholdyng of the same be fully content, satisfyed, and payd.

Power of re-
entry reserved
if rent be long
overdue.

And if itt happen the said Rent or eny parte or parcell therof 35 to be behynde and not paid att eny of the said ffestes that itt ought to be payd at And after by the space of oone moneth, And noo suffycient distresse ther to be ffounde, Than itt shalbe

* lf. 283.

¹ i. e. the lessee is to pay the parish-priests.

liefull vnto the sayd master william fleshmonger and his successours into all the premisses to reentre And the same to haue and holde as in ther ffirste and former estate, And the same thomas dymmoke and his assignes to expell amove and put oute
5 for euer, This Indenture or eny thing in the same conteyned to the contrarye in enywise not withstondyng.

In wytnes wherof the said parties to thiese present indentures interchangeably haue sett ther seales the daye and yere abovewriten.

[II. *Full Text of the Confirmation.*]

10 Et nos Iohannes, permissione diuina Lincolniensis episcopus, concessionem, dimissionem, et locacionem, Ceterasque conuen-
ciones in indenturis presentibus annexis specificatas, ratas
habentes et gratas, Eas pro nobis et Successoribus nostris, quantum in nobis est, ratificamus, approbamus, et confirmamus,
15 pro terminis et annis in eisdem specificatis et expressis, iuxta omnem vim formam et effectum concessionis, dimissionis, locacionis, et conuentionum huiusmodi (Iuribus nostris Episcop-
palibus et successorum nostrorum, ac ecclesie nostre cathedralis beate marie lincolniensis consuetudinibus, dignitate, et honore,
20 in omnibus semper saluis.

John Long-land, bishop of Lincoln, approving the above lease,

but reserving all rights of his see and of Lincoln Minster,

In quarum quidem ratificacionis, gratificacionis, approbacionis, et confirmacionis fidem et testimonium, Sigillum nostrum ad causas presentibus apponi fecimus. Datum in Castro nostro apud Sleaforde, quinto die mensis Septembris, Anno domini
25 Millesimo quingentesimo xxxviij^{uo}, Et nostre Consecrationis Anno xviiij^{uo}.

attaches to this indenture his seal
ad causas, at Sleaford Castle,
5 Sept., 1538.

LIII: Celibate vow, 8 September, 1536, by Agnes Wigston, widow, of Leicester, taken before John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, in the chapel of Buckden manor, Huntingdonshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 269 bk. The vow is attested by the 'mark' (i.e. sign of the cross) made by the witness, who apparently could not write.

* Memorandum, quod octauo die mensis Septembris, anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxvj^{to}, in capella infra Mane-

* lf. 269 bk.

rium de bukden, coram Reuerendo in christo patre et domino, domino Iohanne, permissione diuina Lincolnensi [episcopo], celebrante, Agnes wigston de Leycestre professa est solempniur votum castitatis vidualis in hec verba :

I, Agnes wigston, wedowe, nouthur dispensed ne contracted 5
to eny man, butt single woman, with suffycient deliberacion, with a good contynuanee of tyme hadd, doo here promysse and make myn avowe, to god, and to our lady, and to all his saintes : In presence of you, Reuerend ffadre, my lorde Iohn bisshoppe of Lincoln myn ordynary, full purpose, ffrom this day fforwarde, 10
to kepe viduall contynence and chastyte, In the name of the ffadre, and of the sone, And of the holye gooste. Amen. And in wytnes of this my profession I doo signe this bill with my own hand, +.

**LIV : Lease, 1536, for 51 years, of the prebend of
Welton Brinkhall, Lincolnshire.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 271 and lf. 271 bk. Brinkhall was a manor in Walton parish, near Lincoln.

[I. *Full Text of Indenture.*]

Indenture,
29 September,
28 Henr. VIII
(1536), by
which John
Harden, pre-
bendary of
Welton
Brinkhall,
leases his
prebend to
Gawen Skel-
ton of Welton,

This Indenture, made the sixth day of Septembre the xxviith 15
yere of the Raigne of kyng henry the viijth, betwixt master
John harden, channon of the Cathedraill
* Welton brynckehall churche of Lincoln and prebendary of
prebende Indentura. the prebend of welton brynckball within
the Countie of Lincoln of the oone partie, And Gawen Skelton 20
of welton in the sayd Countie yoman of the other partie :

Wytnessyth that the said master Iohn harden hath dymysed
graunted and to ferme latten to the said gawen Skelton his fore-
said prebend, with all and singuler houses, tythes, Rentes,
libertes, and other commodyties and proffettes therto belongyng, 25

for 51 years,

To haue, holde, and occupye the sayd prebend with all the
premysses therto belongyng, vnto the sayd gawen Skelton and
his assignes, ffrom the feaste of thannunciacion of our lady last
past afore the date hereof vnto thende and terme of flyvety
and oone yeres then next and immedyatly ffolowyng fully to be 30
complett & ended,

* lf. 271.

yeldyng and payng therfore yerely, vnto the foresayd Master John harden and his Successours or assignes, ffive poundes of lefull money of England att twoo termes in the yere, that is to say att Whitsonday & saintte Martyn * in Wynter, by even
 5 porcions, att Oxforthe in the Colledge of Brasynnose to the pryncypall or oon of the ffelowes of the said place duryng the naturall lyve of the said master Iohn harden.

at the yearly rent of £5, payable half-yearly.

And the foresayd gawen promysyth, and by thiese presentes graunteth that he and his assignes shall yerely supporte mayn-
 10 teyn and beyre all maner costes and chardges of thakke and mortar to the houses (with thappurtenaunces) to the sayd prebend belongyng, duryng all the said terme of ffyvehty & oone yeres; And, in thende of the sayd terme, them suffyciently repayed shall leve at their propre Costes and chardges.

The lessee is responsible for repairs.

15 And the sayd master Iohn harden couenaunteth and graunteth to and with the foresaid Gawen Skelton that he and his Successours shall yerely pay, supporte, and maynteyn all other chardges belongyng to þe said prebend duryng all the terme beforesayd.

Lessor is to pay all ordinary charges due by the estate.

20 And if itt ffortune the said Rent of ffive poundes in parte or in the holle to be behynd vnpaid after eny of þe foresayd ffeastes that itt owght to be payd att by the space of oone moneth, than itt shalbe lefull to the sayd master Iohn harden and hys Successours into the sayd prebend and euery parcell therof to
 25 enture and distrayne And the dystresses soo taken to leyde, dryue and Carry away and them to hold and occupye to suche tyme as the sayd Rent with costes and chardgies made aboute the same then be fully contentyd, Satysfyed and payd.

Power of distraint reserved, if rent be unpaid.

And If itt ffortune the sayd Rent in parte or in the hole be
 30 behynd vnpaid after eny of the said ffeastes that itt owght to be paid att by the space of three monethes, or the said Reparacions nott suffyently ² don, That than itt shalbe lefull to the fforsaid master Iohn Harden, and his Successors, into the beforesayd prebend, with thappurtenaunces, to Re-enture and
 35 into there handes the same to take ayen as in there fformer

Power of re-entry reserved, if rent be long withheld or repairs not done.

* If. 271 bk.

² sic in MS., but perhaps only

¹ The statement of the deed is unusual, but precise. The lessor, because a letter is dropped, not the lessee, is to pay charges. because of an unusual form.

Astate, And the said Gawen Skelton and his assignes ffrom the same to expell, put-forthe and remoue away, This Indenture or eny thing therin conteyned to the contrary not-withstondyng.

In Wytnes wherof the parties abovesayd to thies Indentures haith the interchaungeably putt there Seales, the day and yere 5 above sayd.

[II. *Full Text of the Confirmation.*]

John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, approves of the terms of the lease,

(reserving all rights of his see and of Lincoln Minster),

and attaches his seal *ad causas*, in his lodgings at Old Temple, London, 23 February, 1536/7.

Et nos Iohannes, permissione diuina Lincolnensis episcopus, ex certis causis nos in ea parte iuste mouentibus, Concessionem, dimissionem, et locacionem in indenturis presentibus annexis specificatas, ratas habentes et gratas, eas, pro nobis et Succes- 10 soribus nostris, quantum in nobis est, ratificamus, approbamus, et confirmamus, pro terminis in eisdem (*sic*) expressis, iuxta omnem vim, formam, et effectum concessionis, dimissionis, et locacionis huiusmodi (Iuribus nostris episcopalibus, et ecclesie nostre Cathedralis beate marie Lincolnensis consuetudinibus 15 ac dignitate in omnibus semper saluis).

In Quorum quidem ratificacionis, approbacionis, et confirmacionis fidem et Testimonium, Sigillum nostrum ad causas presentibus apponi fecimus.

Datum In hospitio nostro apud vetus Templum, London, 20 xxij^{to} die mensis february, Anno domini Millesimo Quingentesimo xxxvj^{to}, Et nostre Consecracionis Anno decimo Sexto.

LV: Henry VIII's Decree, 153⁶₇, abolishing several Festival Days.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 275 bk. and lf. 276.

The trouble about Holy-days was not that there were several of them in each month in the Church Calendar, and that the bells rang for service on these days, morning and evening; but that attendance at such Holy-day services was compulsory on all parishioners, and non-attendance was punishable at the discretion of the Ecclesiastical Courts. Consequently, work on these days, however urgent in the interest of the farm, was contrary to Canon Law, and punishable.

To show the working of the system, I give some examples,

from authentic and unpublished records of Elizabeth's reign, preserved in the official minute-books of the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex. It is to be remembered that, in all such cases of prosecution for working on Holy-days, the odium and the severity of the proceedings went far beyond the actual fine imposed, or the actual apology ordered. There were—

(a) the Court fees: at least 4*d.* to the apparitor for serving the citation, and at least 12*d.* to the Court for hearing the case; and, often, like fees for recording the performance of the order made by the Court, so as to have a formal conclusion of the case;

(b) the day taken up to attend the Court, which, generally, was held at some centre a long way from the accused man's abode; and the expenses incurred in the journey;

(c) the disgrace of being herded, on a mere charge of doing work or taking part in athletics, with a crowd of parish offenders, brought into court because of gross offences against decency and morality.

7 November, 1586, a young man of Romford was brought into the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex on the charge of 'plaieinge at stooile-bawle on holie Thursdaie last in service tyme, and gave crewell wordes to the churchwardens for demaunding 12*d.* of him for his absence from church'. He admitted that he had been at stool-ball that afternoon, but asserted that he had been at Evening Prayer. He was sentenced to pay 12*d.* to the poor; and (of course) had to pay court and apparitor's fees.

5 May, 1592, Richard Jeffercy, of Asheldham, Essex, was brought before the Court of the Archdeacon of Essex, on the charge that he 'had procured company together, and plaied at foote-ball' in Hackwell, Essex, on Easter Monday, in Evening Service time. He pleaded that he 'did not knowe that there was at Hackwell any evening prayer' on that day. He was ordered to pay 4*d.* to the poor of Asheldham.

8 May, 1591, Richard Jeppe, of Chignall Mary and James, Essex, was charged before the Archdeacon of Essex, with having carted and carried hay on our Lady Day¹ last. He admitted

¹ Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin (March 25th).

that, on that day, 'a boye of his did fetch home a lyttle haye with his carte and horse.' He was ordered :

On Sunday nexte, immediately after the seconde lesson is red at eveninge prair, to come into the bodeye of the churche, and, before the minister, to acknowledge his falte, and shew himselfe sorie for that his seruante did breake the queen's law, and promise that there shall not be the like falte committed againe.

On 15 June, 1591, this Richard Jeppe paid 4*d.* to an apparitor of the court, to have his certificate of having duly made apology (as ordered) put on record.

14 September, 1591, Thomas Sorrell, of Woodham Ferrers, Essex, attended the Court held in Ingatestone Church, to answer the charge that he 'went to ploughe vpon Bartholomew daye'¹ last in the forenoone'. He was ordered to pay 2*s.* to the use of the poor.

Before Henry VIII's decree, the burden of Holy-days was especially grievous, because several of these fell within the busy weeks of harvest, when, in view of the scarcity of food (each harvest being barely sufficient for the needs of the country), and of the uncertainty of the weather, every effort ought to have been made on favourable days to get the grain safely into barn. So far as Henry VIII's Order in Council dealt with this national trouble, it is most laudable. It is even to be regretted that a like measure of relief was not extended to the equally important, and equally weather-troubled, season of haymaking, if not also to ploughing and sowing in years when the weather hampered these works.

If such reasonable relief had been given in these respects, there would have been no need for the abolition of certain distinctive local Festival-days, as by this Order in Council was ruthlessly enjoined.

Every parish had its own two local Holy-days ; (i) the day of the patron-saint² to which the church was dedicated ; (ii) the day of the dedication of the church.

This second festival probably perpetuated, by unwritten but

¹ August 24.

² These documents seem to put again on record the patron-saints of

several churches, the exact dedications of which had been forgotten.

continuous tradition, the actual day of the dedication of the building, as originally consecrated. As a result of Henry VIII's Order the dedication-day of most churches is now irrecoverable.

Two examples of the two parish festival-days may be given :

At All Saints, Oxford, the patronal-day was, of course, November 1, All Saints day ; but it is on record that the dedication-day of the church was November 18. At St. Michael's North Gate, Oxford, the patronal-day was September 29 (St. Michael and All Angels), but the dedication-day of the church was October 16, a later St. Michael festival (St. Michael *in monte tumba*).

The Order in Council appointed (*infra*, p. 218) four days, one at the end of each quarter, to be 'the foure generall offeryng dayes'. I hazard the opinion that this was done to reduce to uniformity the practice of different churches in keeping their yearly masses in commemoration of their founders and benefactors.

My information about these comes from the *Bursars' Accounts* in the Archives of Lincoln College, Oxford.

At All Saints Church, Oxford, this mass was said once a year, generally about the end of January, but apparently on a day chosen at random each year. The churchwardens, I assume, paid the charges out of the moneys they had in hand.

1506 [beginning of February], recept. in obitu pro benefactoribus ecclesie, 1*d.* [i. e. the one-penny oblation at the mass.]

1514 [end of November], recept. in anniversario benefactorum Omnium Sanctorum, 5*d.*

1517 [end of January], recept. pro conductione¹ cere benefactorum ecclesie, 6*d.* ; pro exequiis de benefactoribus ecclesie, 6*d.*

1520 [late in January], pro Compositione cere in exequiis benefactorum, 12*d.* ; pro oblationibus in missa, 1*d.*

1525 [late in January], in anniversario benefactorum ecclesie, 1*d.* ; pro compositione luminis in anniversario benefactorum ecclesie, 12*d.*

At St. Michael's, Oxford, this mass was said once a quarter, but, apparently, not on fixed days. The charges for it were generally 3*d.*, viz. 1*d.* for the offering at Mass, and 2*d.* for the

¹ i. e. the College allowed the churchwardens to hire the College wax-tapers for use at this mass.

use of the wax-tapers. It is referred to in the College accounts under a great variety of names.

1505 [once in each of the four quarters], in obitu pro ecclesia, 1*d.*; pro cera, 2*d.*

1508, in communi obitu, 3*d.* [about 27 February, 14 May, 23 July, 3 December].

1510 [about 21 January], for the town dyrg, 2*d.*; [about 17 June] pro compositione exequiarum communium, 3*d.*

1512, in exequiis communibus, pro cera et oblatione, 3*d.* [about 28 February, . . . 1 August, 28 November].

1513 [about 19 June], for the quarter deryge, 3*d.*

1517 [about 25 January], pro conductione cere benefactorum, 3*d.*; [about 21 June], pro obitu benefactorum ecclesie, 3*d.*; [about 9 August], pro obitu benefactorum ecclesie, 3*d.*; [middle of December], pro obitu benefactorum ecclesie, . . .

[I. Full Text of Official Covering-letter.]

Henry VIII,
Supreme Head
(on earth) of
the Church
of England,
orders John
Longland,
bishop of Lin-
coln, to send a
printed copy
of enclosed
Order in
Council to
every church
in his diocese,
to be there
publicly pro-
claimed,
under pain
and penalty,
in the fullest
assembly of
people possible
at every place.
Dated at
Westminster,
16 February,
28 Henr. VIII
(1536/7).

* **H**enricus Octauus, dei gratia Anglie et francie Rex, domi-
nus hibernie, et in terra supremum caput Anglicane
ecclesie, Reuerendo in christo patri, Iohanni,
Lincolniensi Episcopo, eiusue in absentia
vicario suo in Spiritualibus generali salutem. 5
**Breve regium pro abrogacione
dierum festiualium.** Vobis mandamus quod, immediate post
receptionem presentium, quoddam decretum
per nos et consilium nostrum conceptum & factum, quod vobis
mittimus papiro impressum¹ presentibus interclusum, in singulis
ecclesijs, tam parochialibus quam alijs, infra diocesim vestram 10
Lincolniensem predictam, quando maior affuerit accessus populi,
ex parte nostra publicari et solempniter denunciari faciatis.
Et hoc, sicut nobis inde respondere volueritis, diligenter fieri
curetis.

T[este] meipso apud westmonasterium, xvj^{to} die ffebruarij, 15
Anno Regni nostri xxvij^{mo}.

Reuerendo in christo patri, Iohanni Lincolniensi episcopo,
eiusue in absencia vicario suo in spiritualibus generali, de
publicatione facienda. pexsall.²

* If. 275 bk.

¹ Note the progress made in the use of the printer's art, as contrasted with p. 195.

² 'Pexsall' is surname of the Clerk of the Privy Council who was

responsible for sending out this Order. The clerk's name is thus habitually attached to such Orders, no doubt with a view to checking any Order of which the authenticity was disputed.

[II. Full Text of the Decree.]

fforasmochē as the nombre of holydayes is so excessyuelly The present excessive, and
growen, and yet dayly more and more by mens 'devocion', increasing,
(yee, rather, 'supersticion') was like further to number of
Decretum pro incesse, that the same was (and shuld¹ be) not
huiusmodi only preiudicyall to the commune weale by
abrogacione reason that itt is occasion as well of moche
dierum slouthē and ydelnes (the very nourishe of
festiualium. theves, vagabundes, & of dyuers other vnthrif-
tynes and inconvenyences) as of decaye of good mysteres
10 & artes (vtile and necessary for the commune weale), and
loosse of mans foode (many tymes beyng elene destroyde throught
the superstitiouse observance of the said holydayes in not taken²
the oportunitie of good and serene wether offred vpon the
same in tyme of haruest): but also pernytyouse to the soules
15 of many men, whiche, beyng intysed by the lycentious vacacion
& libertie of those holydayes, doo vpon the same commonlye
vse and practize more excesse, ryote & superfluyte than vpon
any other dayes; And, sith the sabbote day was ordeyned butt
for man's vse, and therefore ought to give place to the necessyte
20 and behove of the same whan so euer that shall occure, moche
moche (sic) rather any other holyday institute by man: It is
therefore, by the kynges highnes auctorite, as supreme hedde
on erthe of the churche of England, with the commune assent
and consent of the prelates and clergie of this his realme in
25 convocacion lauffully assembled and congregate, (emonges other
thinges) decreed ordeyned and establisshed
first, that the feast of Dedycacion of the churche shall in all
places throught-oute this realme be celebrate and kept on the
first sonday of the moneth of octobre for euer, and vpon no
30 other day.
Item, that the feaste of the patrone of euery churche within
this realme (called communly the churche holyday) shall not
ffrom hensforthe be kept or observed as a holyday, as heretofore
hath bene vsed, butt that it shalbe lauffull to all and singuler

and spiritu-
ally,

and deroga-
tory to the
Sabbath-day,
which alone
is divinely
appointed.

Therefore,
Henry VIII,
with consent
of the Convo-
cation of the
Church,
orders—

(i) that every
church in the
realm shall
observe 1st
Su. in Oct.
as its 'Dedi-
cation' Day.
(ii) that
parishioners
may work on
their 'Church
holy-day,' i.e.
the anniver-

¹ Notice the ancient (correct) use of the future-perfect subjunctive (or conjunctive) of the auxiliary verb 'shall'. 'Shuld' here, in our pre-

sent diction, = 'might'.

² Note the dropping of the 'g' element in 'taking'. It has dialectical significance.

sary of the special patron-saint of their parish-church, unless that be a general church holy-day.

Holy-days in harvest (here defined to be 1 July to 29 September), and in the Law-terms of the Westminster courts (unless they be holy-days of greater importance), are no longer to be observed.

But all clerics may say their service on those days, only they must not make a great show of doing so, nor force the laity to join them in their observance. Four quarterly days fixed by law, as 'offering-days'.

Beginning and ending of Law-terms fixed by law.

persons resident or dwelling within this realme to go to there worke occupacion or mysterye, And the same truely to exercise and occupye vpon the said feaste, as vpon any workie day, Except the said feaste of church holyday be suche as must be els vniuersally obserued as a holyday by this ordynance 5 ffollowyng.

Also, that all those feastes or holydayes whiche shall happen to fall or occurre ether in the harvest tyme (whiche is to be counted ffrom the first day of Iulie vnto the xxixth day of Septembre), or els in the terme tyme att westmynstre, shall 10 not be kept or observed from hensforthe as holydayes, butt that itt may be lafull for euery man to go to his worke or occupacion vpon the same, as vpon eny oper workye day (Except alwayes the feastes of thappostelles, of oure * blessyd lady and of saynte george, And also suche feastes as wherin the kynges 15 iudges att westmynster hall do not vse¹ to sitt in Iugment, All whiche shalbe kept holy and solempne of euery man, as in tyme past haue been accustomed).

Provided allways that itt may be lafull to all prestes and Clerkes, aswell seculer as Regular, in the fforsaid holydayes 20 nowe abrogate, to synge or say there accustomed service for those holydayes in there churches, So that they doo nott the same solempnly, nor do ringe to the same after the maner vsed in highe holydayes, ne doo commaunde or indiete² the same to be kept or observed as holydayes.

25

ffynally, the feastes of the Natyuyte of oure lorde, of Easter, of the Natyuyte of saynte Iohn the baptist, and of saincte Michaell tharchangell, shalbe from hensforthe counted, accepted, and taken for the ffoure generall offering Dayes.

And, for ffurdre declaracion of the premisses, be itt knowen 30 that

Easter terme begynnnythe allways the xvijth day after Easter day (rekeynyng Easter day for oone) and endyth the monday next after thascentyng day.

* If. 276.

¹ These are authoritatively stated, *infra*.

² i.e. give out, in service time, on the preceding Sunday, that the day

is to be observed as a Church holy-day. See, in the present Prayer Book, the rubric after the Creed in the Communion Office.

Trinite terme begynnnyth¹ allways the wensday next after thoctaues of Trinite sonday, and endeth the xjth or xijth day of Iulie.²

Hillarye terme begynneth the xxijth or xxiiith day of 5 January and endeth the xijth or xiiith day of february.

In Easter terme, vpon the ascention day;

In Trinite terme, vpon the natyute of saincte Iohn baptist;

In Michaelmas terme, vpon Alholon day;

In Hillarie terme, vpon Candemas day;

10 The kynges Iuges att westmynster hall doo nott vse to sit in Iugment, nor vpon eny Sonday.

List of Church
Holy-days,
falling in
Full Term,
which are
observed by
the King's
Judges.

LVI: Dispute, 153 $\frac{7}{8}$ (?), as to right of common in common-ground called Brent, between the duchy of Clarence tenants in Uppingham manor and the bishop of Lincoln's tenants in Lyddington manor, Rutlandshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 279 bk. The year is not given, but is probably 153 $\frac{7}{8}$.

The attribution of these letters, by the copyist who enrolled them in Bishop Longland's Register, is at first sight puzzling; but is readily explained by his having put down 'duke of Clarence' for the 'duchy of Clarence office'. The facts are sufficiently stated in James Wright's *History and Antiquities of . . . Rutland* (1684), pp. 130, 131. Uppingham manor belonged to Anne Beauchamp, sister and heiress (1449) of Henry, 15th earl and 1st duke of Warwick, and wife of Richard Nevil, 17th earl of Warwick. After her husband's death on Barnet field, 1471, Uppingham (with other of her estates) was settled on her elder daughter Isabel, wife of George, Duke of Clarence (brother of Edward IV). After the attainder of 'false perjured Clarence' in January 147 $\frac{7}{8}$, his estates were forfeited to the

¹ Date altered by Statute of 1540, of Michaelmas, i.e. 9 or 10 October, to Friday after Trinity Sunday, and ended on 28 or 29 November.

² Michaelmas term is omitted Opening day altered, by Statute of by some transcriber's error. It 1640, and again of 1752. began on the 4th day of the octaves

Crown, and were retained by the Crown till Elizabeth's reign. The Crown managed them by a Steward. In 1484 the Stewardship of the lordship of Uppingham, and of other lordships and lands which formerly had belonged to George, Duke of Clarence, was granted to Simon Digby (afterwards Sir Simon, of Coles Hill, co. Leicester), who died 27 February, 15 $\frac{19}{20}$. In 1546 the manor of Uppingham was temporarily granted by Edward VI to his sister Elizabeth (afterwards Queen), the rents being then collected by Richard Darrington, the King's Receiver in Rutland.

Repeated order to the tenants of Uppingham manor to allow the tenants of Lyddington manor rights of common in Brent common, pending settlement of the dispute as to their claim.

15 March
(? 1537/8).

* **W**elbelouede, we grete you well. And howe beit that heretofore we toke direccion that ye shulde suffre the tenauntes of Lyddington to entrecomyne with you in a comyn callede Brente till the mater of variaunce dependinge betwixte you and 5 them were determynede, Yett nathelesse we bene enformede that, contrarye to the same our direccion and our commaundemente

therupon to you yeuen, ye disturbe them in the same, to our grette meruaile and displeasour. Wherefore we eftesones write vnto you, chardginge you neither to doo or attempte from hensforthe anythinge contrarye to our saide commaundemente, as ye will answeare; butt that ye suffre the said tenauntes of Lyddington to entrecomyne in the same comyn till the saide mater be determynede. Yeuen vndre our signet att London 15 the xvth daye of Marche.

Suprascriptio dicte littere.

To our welbelouede our tenauntes of our lordeshipe of Vppingham, and to euery of them.

The same order is repeated. The Bishop of Lincoln is willing that his tenants' claims should be decided by such

Welbelouede, we grete you well. And forasmoche as the reuerende fadre in god and our righte welbelouede, the 20 busshoppe of Lincoln, hathe offrede vnto vs tabide the Iudgemente of vs and our counsaile in suche variaunce as is late fallen betwene you and his tenauntes of Lyddington for suche comyn as his saide tenauntes

* If. 279 bk.

claymethe to haue in brente ; We, hauinge consideracion vnto
 his reasonable offre, desyeringe righte, equitye, and peaxe to be
 betwene you, woll and chardge you nott onely to be of good
 peaseable and restfull demeaninge annenste the saide tenauntes,
 5 butt as well suffre them to comune in the saide brente in peaxe
 vnto the tyme as by vs and our saide counsell suche direccion
 as shall mowe accorde with righte and reason maye be sette
 and hadde betwene you. Nott faylinge hereof as ye woll eschue
 our displeasure. Yeuen, &c.

lawyers as
 Uppingham
 manor may
 refer the
 case to.

**LVII: Will, 1538, of John Joseph, a servant of the
 Bishop of Lincoln.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 277
 bk. and lf. 278.

10 * **I**n the name of god, amen : the xxij^{ti} daye¹ of Marche in the 22 March,
 yere of our lorde god a thousande five hundrede thirte and 1537/8.
 seven, I, Iohn Iosephe, seruaunte with my
 Testamentum lorde of Lincoln,² make my testamente and
 Iohannis Ioseph. laste will in forme folowinge.

15 ffirste, I bequethe my soule to almighty god, and to our
 blessyde seincte marye, and to all the blyssede companye of
 heuen, and my bodye to be buryede where itt shall please my
 lorde of Lincoln.

Also, I will that my modre shall haue all my landes as longe
 20 as she liffe, and after hir decesse I will that itt shall goo to hir
 children.

Also, master Lee³ hathe a hundrith marke⁴ of money of myn
 in kepinge, the whiche hundrith marke I will that my lorde of
 Lincoln shall haue att his disposicion as he thynkethe beste.

25 Also, william Sowthall hathe x s. of myn the whiche x s. I
 will that my lorde of Lincoln shall haue att his disposicion.

And all the reste of my goodes nott given, I putt them att
 the disposicion of my Lorde of Lincoln.

These beinge witenes: ser Iohn white, curate of seincte
 30 andrewes in holborn ; and thomas Tilworthe, with other moo.

* lf. 277 bk.

³ p. 163.

¹ i. e. two and twenti daye.

⁴ = £66 13s. 4d.

² John Longland, bishop 1521-47.

Requests the
 Bishop of Lin-
 coln to ad-
 minister his
 estate.

[I. *Appointment of Administrator.*]

27 March,
1538,
Nicholas
Smyth was
appointed by
bishop John
Longland to
administer
the estate.

* Vigesimo septimo die mensis marcij, Anno Domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxvii^{uo}, reuerendus in christo pater et dominus, dominus Iohannes, permissione diuina Lincolniensis episcopus, constituit dominum Nicolaum Smyth, clericum, procuratorem suum ad petendam approbacionem testamenti dicti Iohannis Iosephe, et ad acceptandam administracionem omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum eiusdem defuncti, ac ad prestandum iuramentum de fideliter administrando, &c. 10

Constitutio episcopi Lincolniensis ad recipiendum administracionem bonorum.

[II. *Record of Probate.*]

28 March,
1538, proved
before Robert
Clise, LL.D.,
Official principal of the
Bishop of
Lincoln.

Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram venerabili viro magistro Roberto Clise, legum doctore, dicti reuerendi patris vicario in spiritualibus generali et officiali principali, xxvii^{uo} die mensis predicti, anno domini supradicto; commissa administracione omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum prenarrati defuncti supradicto reuerendo patri, domino Iohanni, episcopo lincolniensi, in persona procuratoris sui huiusmodi. Et admissa atque accepta per eundem, die et anno predictis. 15

Approbacio eiusdem.

LVIII: Will, 1538, of Thomas Buck, chantry-priest of Dorney, Buckinghamshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 277 bk.

[I. *Abbreviated Text of Will.*]

10 May, 1538.

In dei nomine, amen. The xth daye of the monethe of May 20
in the yere of our Lorde god a thousande five hundrede
thirty and eighte: I, ser Thomas bucke, the
chauntrye priste of dorney, &c., make my
laste will and testamente in forme folowinge.
ffirste, I bequethe my soule to almighty
god, &c.; and my bodye to be buryede in the bodye of the
chirche of dorney.

Requests
burial in
church of
Dorney, Buck-
inghamshire.

* lf. 277.

† lf. 277 bk.

Item, I bequethe to the modre chirche of Lincoln, ij d.

Item, I bequethe to the highe autler in the parishe chirche of dorney, xij d. ; Item, I bequethe to the roode lighte, viij d. ;

Bequests to
Dorney
Church.

Item, to seincte Iames lighte, vj d.

- 5 Item, I will that a honeste priste doo singe for the soule of master william butler, sometyme canon of the colledge of seincte george in wyndesore, by the space of oon hoolle yere; and he for to haue for his wagies vj^{li} xiijs. iiij d., prouyded that if ser Robert norres maye haue licence of thabbesse of burnham¹
- 10 for to singe in the abbey aforesaide for the soules of the fore- saide Mr. William butler and of ser Thomas buck twoo yeres, thenne he for to haue the saide vj^{li} xiijs. iiij d. for his twoo yeres wagies, and he for to saye thre *dyriges* in euery weke, and *de profundis*² in euery masse, for the soules of Mr. william
- 15 butler and ser Thomas bucke duringe the saide twoo yeres.

Commemora-
tion of
William
Butler, Canon
of Windsor,

and of the
testator.

Item, I will that euery oon of my godchildren haue vj d. for to praye for my soule.

Item, I bequethe to pristis and clerkes att my buryinge and att my monethes mynde xls.

- 20 Item, I bequethe to the poore folkes of dorney in bredde ale and chese to the valour of xx s. to be delte att my buriall and att my monethes mynde.

Bread, ale,
and cheese at
the funeral
and month's
mind.

- The residue of my goodes (my debtes paide, my legacies ful- fillede) I geve and bequethe to my executours, for to dispose
- 25 them in charitable dedes as they shall thynke beste.

Item, I ordeyne and make my executours of this my laste will & testamente Thomas Manfelde, *gentleman*, and Mr. william bolton, vicar of dorney.

Executors
named.

- And I give and bequethe to either of them for there laboures
- 30 xls.

These beinge witenes: Iohn goldwyn and Robart goldwyn, with many moo.

[II. *Record of Probate.*]

- Probatum fuit huiusmodi testamentum coram magistro Antonio Draicotte, doctore, reuerendi patris Lincolniensis epi- scopi vicario in spiritualibus generali et officiali principali, xix^o
- 35

Proved before
Dr. Anthony
Draicotte,
Official prin-

¹ Buckinghamshire.

or 130 (in English count), see in

² Psalm cxxix (in Vulgate count),

Forewords, p. 14.

cipal of the
Bishop of Lin-
coln, 19 July,
1538.⁹

die mensis Iulij, anno domini predicto, commissa per eundem administracione omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti executoribus supranominatis, iuratis, &c.

LIX: Lease, 14 March, 1538^g, by Lincoln College, Oxford, of the revenues of All Saints Vicarage, Oxford, to the Churchwardens of All Saints parish.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 285 bk. to lf. 286 bk. The transaction required the assent of the Bishop of Lincoln, as being both Visitor of the College and Diocesan of the parish.

See in the Forewords, p. 22, *supra*. The special proviso that the parish-priest appointed by the parishioners shall minister to all residents in Lincoln College was required by the fact that some rooms in the College were within the bounds of St. Michael's parish, so that, except for this proviso, the All Saints parish-priest might have judged them outside his cure.

The fact that one penny was an accustomed and usual offering at a mass is shown on many occasions in Lincoln College documents. It will be enough to cite one special instance, and to refer to the general instances of the church-obits at All Saints, Oxford, and St. Michael's, Oxford (*supra*, p. 215 and p. 216).

On 30 June, 6 Henry VIII (1514), Lincoln College agreed with Sir William Finderne, knight, of Childrey, Berks., to keep a yearly obit at Childrey, at which the College should give to the rector of Childrey (if present) 8*d.*; for wax-light, 4*d.*; *pro oblatione*, 1*d.*; and to the parish-clerk for tolling the great bell at the mass and the exequies, 4*d.*

[I. *Full Text of the Indentures.*]

Indenture,
14 March,
30 Henry VIII
(1538/9),

between Lin-
coln College,
Oxford,

and All
Saints parish,
Oxford.

* **T**his Indenture, made the xiiijth daye of marche in the xxx^{ti} yere of the reigne of our moste dredde souereigne 5
lorde kinge henry the eghte,
Indentura betweene hughe Weston, bachelor of dyuynitie
ecclesie and Rector of Lincoln colledge within the vny-
omnium uersitie of oxon, and the fealowes and scolers of
sanctorum the same colledge, on the oon partie
Oxonie. 10

and william paw and william Tylcokes, chirche-
wardens of the parishe of all seinctes within the towne of oxon,

* lf. 285 bk.

and the holle parisheners of the saide parishe, on the other partie

witenesethe that the saide rector, fealowes and scolers of the saide colledge, with their oon assente and consente, have, for 5 them and their successours, dymysede, grauntede, and to ferme lett and by thes presentes dothe dymyse, graunte, and to ferme lett vnto the foresaide william and william and to their successours, chirchewardens of the saide parishe chirche, all that their parsonage and vicarage sette, lyinge, and beinge within the 10 saide parishe of all seinctes within the towne of oxon aforesaide, with all maner of oblacions, tuythes, emolumentes, all other prouffettes and commodyties whate soeuer they be, with their appurtenaunces, thereunto belonginge or in any maner of wise appertayninge.

15 To have and to holde the said personage, vicarage, and other the premysses and euery parcell thereof, with their appurtenaunces, vnto the foresaide william paw and william Tylcoke and their successours, chirchewardens of the saide chirche, to the oonly vse and behoue of the saide chirche and the holle 20 parischeners of the saide parishe, frome the feaste of the Natyuitie of our lorde god laste paste before the date of thes premysses vntill thende and terme of thirtye yeres thenne nexte ensuinge fully to be complete and endede.

Yeldinge and paynge therefore yerely duringe the saide 25 terme to the saide rector, fealowes, scolers and their successours, liijs. iiij d. of good and lawfull money of englond (above all chardgies), to be paide att twoo vsuall termes in the yere within the saide parishe chirche of all seinctes, That is to saye, att the feaste of Easter and the feaste of seincte mighell tharchaungell 30 by even porcions.

Also, the saide william and william couenauntethe and graunthethe by thes presentes for them and their successours, chirchewardens, proctours, rulers or gouernors (by whate soeuer name here after in tyme to come they shalbe namede and callede 35 by), to and with the saide rector, fealowes, scolers and their successours that they the saide william and william and their successours or other above namede, or assignes, chirchewardens of the saide chirche, proctours, rulers or gouernours or by whate soeuer other names they or their successours shalbe namede

The College grants to the parish

a lease of all the revenues of the Rectory and Vicarage of All Saints,

at a net yearly rent of 53s. 4d.,

and under obligations that the parish shall (a) keep the rectorial chancel of All Saints church in repair;

hereafter, shall kepe, susteyne, repayre, mayntayne, and vpholde well and suffyciently all manner of reparacions belonginge to the chauncell of the saide rector fealowes and scolers

(b) provide all communion elements and other church requisites;

with the chardgies and expenses of synginge bredde, wyne, waxe, and oyle, with all other necessaryes and chardgies (ordynarye and extraordynarye) appertayninge or belonginge to the saide chirche, att their own propre costes, chardgies and expenses duringe the saide terme.

(c) pay all accustomed duties to the Bishop of Lincoln and to the Archdeacon of Oxford.

Also, the saide william and william covenawntethe and grauntethe by thes presentes, for them and their successours 10 chirkewardens, to and with the saide rector, fealowes, and scolers, and their successoures, that they the saide william and william chirkewardens and their successoures chirkewardens, proctours, rulers or gouernours or by whate soeuer oper name in tyme to come they or their successours shalbe namede and 15 callede by, shall beare and paye all maner of dueties and chardgies that hereafter shalbe due to the busshope of the dioces and to tharchedeacon of the same shire or to any persone or persones duringe the saide [term].

The College bound itself (a) to continue its attendance at services at All Saints, as required by the College Statutes,

Also, the saide rector fealowes and scolers covenawntethe and 20 grauntethe by thes presentes, for them and their successours, to and with the foresaide william and william and their successours chirkewardens proctours gouernours and rulers of the saide chirche and with the holle parisheners of the same parishe, that they the saide rector (accordinge to his statute¹) and the 25 fealowes and scolers of the saide colledge and their successours shall kepe, euery sondaye, holydayes, and pryncipall feastes and other festynall holidayes & all other holydayes that fallethe within the yere, dyvyne seruice within the saide chirche as they be nowe accustomed and haue vsede of olde tyme to doo, 30 excepte in tyme of infyrmytie and sekenes.

except in time of plague;

(b) to cause one of its Fellows, in Priest's Orders, to help the parish-priest in his ministrations in time of plague.

Also, the saide rector fealowes and scolers couenawntethe and grauntethe by thes presentes, for them and their successours, to and with the foresaide william and william * and their successours chirkewardens and also with the holle parisheners 35 that be nowe presente and hereafter to come, that the said rector fealowes and scolers and their successours shall assigne

* lf. 286.

two sermons in English by the

¹ The reference is specially to the Rector, *supra*, p. 24.

& appoynte oon of the fealowes of the saide colledge (beinge a priste) to ayde and helpe the parishe priste of the saide parishe for the tyme beinge, in case and necessytie of infyrmytie and sekenes and in vysitinge of any seeke persone or persones, when
5 and as oftentymes as nede shall soo requyre more thenne oon priste, if nede be.

Also, the saide rector, fealowes and scholars covenautethe and grauntethe by thes presentes for them and their successours to and with the foresaide william and william and their successours
10 sours chirchewardens, and with all the holle parischeners of the saide parishe beinge nowe presentt and with them for to come that the saide rector fealowes, scholars and their successours shall att all tyme and tymes hereafter duringe the saide terme doo [and] suffre and cause to be doon and suffrede all and euery
15 thinge and thinges that shalbe advysede by the saide william and william and their successours chirchewardens of the foresaide chirche or their counsell lernede, for the more and further assuraunce and sure makinge of the premysses vnto the saide william and william and their successours chirchewardens for
20 and by all duringe the saide terme of thirtye yeres. And likewise the saide william and william chirchewardens and their successours chirchewardens and the holle parischeners of the saide parishe shall at all tyme and tymes hereafter doo and suffre to be doon all and euery thinge and thinges that shalbe
25 advysede by the saide rector, fealowes, scolars, and their successours for the further assuraunce and [sure] makinge of the premysses.

Moreouer, itt is agrede betwene the saide parties that the saide rector fealowes and scolars nor their successours nor noo
30 inhabytauntes¹ within the saide colledge shall paye att any tyme duringe the saide terme any maner of tuythies, oblacions, alteragies concerninge the saide personage to noo maner of persons or persones, butt shalbe thereof clerely dischardgede duringe the saide terme,

The Colledge and Parish mutually agree to execute all legal deeds which may be thought necessary to make this agreement valid and binding on both parties.

Special bargain is made that members of and inmates of the Colledge (a) shall be exempt from payment of ordinary dues to the Vicar of All Saints;

¹ Statutably the College consisted of the endowed Foundation Members (Rector and Fellows) and the Statutable Servants (cook, manciple, barber, bible-clerk), but there were also resident in it Graduate Com-

moners, who paid for their board and residence, and Poor Scholars (i.e. lads who earned their board and instruction by service within the college).

(b) shall have right of burial in the parish chancel of the Church, or in the Churchyard, without paying for the ground, and free of all charges

except the usual burial fees to the vicar, clerk, and bell-ringer, actual costs of funeral lights, and the Mass-penny.

Bargain is specially made that the parish shall provide for itself a priest to serve the cure,

(subject to the statutable right of the Rector of Lincoln College to admit him and dismiss him at pleasure), and to act as ministrant priest to all the inmates of the College.

Special stipulations are made

And also shall have free buryall and funeralles within their chauncell¹ (the whiche is on the sowthe syde of the saide chirche) and within the chircheyarde for the saide rector, fealowes, scolers and their successours and for all other inhabytauntes that be nowe within the saide colledge or hereafter; shalbe duringe the saide terme withoute any maner of paymentes, chardgies, exaccions, or any other dueties susteyninge for the same, excepte dueties to the parishe priste and clerke, and for rynginge of the belles, burninge of tapurs, wexe, and other dueties perteyninge to the clerke of the chirche and to the parishe priste, and the offeringe of the masse peny² whenne any of the saide colledge shall fortune to dye.

Also, the saide william and william couenauntethe and grauntethe by thes presentes, for yem and their successours and for all the holle parisheners of the saide parishe that nowe be presente and for them hereafter to come, to and with the foresaide rector fealowes, scolers and their successours, that they the saide william and william and their successours chircwardens shall att all tymes duringe the saide terme prouyde procure and gette oon honeste priste of good name and fame to serve and have chardge of the cure of the saide parisheners of all seinctes (suche a oon as shalbe att all tymes examynede allowede and admyttede by the saide rector and his successours rectors of the saide colledge,³ And likewise the saide priste to be amovede, advoydede, dischardgede and putte forthe frome his service of the saide parishe as oftentymes as itt shalbe thoughte expediente and conueniente by the saide rector or his successours): whiche priste for the tyme beinge shalbe bounde to vysite and mynistrer all sacramentes and sacramentalles * to the saide Rector fealowes scolers and their successours and to all other inhabytauntes⁴ within the saide colledge duringe the saide terme.

furthermore, the saide william and william couenauntethe and grauntethe by thes presentes for them and their successours chircwardens to and with the foresaide rector, fealowes, scolers and their successours that they and their successours

* If. 286 bk.

¹ 'their' = the parish chancel: see Anthony Wood's *City of Oxford*, iii. 152. The College right to bury in 'the College chancel' (*ibid.*, 145)

was in right of its rectory, not in virtue of this agreement.

² See p. 224.

³ See *supra*, p. 23.

⁴ *Supra*, p. 227.

hereafter in tyme to come duringe the saide terme shalbe (i) that the parish shall pay the stipend of the parish-priest ;
 bounde to paye the saide priste his stypende and wagies, requyr-
 inge nor demandinge nothinge of the said rector, fealowes,
 scolers and their successours,

5 savinge oonly the saide preste shall have his shavyng free (ii) that the College barber shall shave him without fee ;
 of the barbour of the colledge duringe the saide terme.

Provydede allwayes that the saide william and william and
 their successours chirchwardens shall provyde the saide preste
 an honeste chambre within some honeste mans house within the
 10 saide parishe. (iii) that the parish shall find him lodgings within the parish.

And if itt fortune the saide yerely rente of liij s. iiij d. or any
 parcell thereof to be behynde vnpayde in parte or in all after
 any feaste of the saide feastes att the whiche itt oughte to be
 payde and is nott payde by the space of seven wekes and lawfully
 15 requyrede of the foresaide william and william and william (*sic*)
 and their successours chirchwardens, that thenne itt shalbe
 lefull vnto the saide rector fealowes, scolers and their successours
 or assignes into the saide chirche of all sayntes to entre and
 into all other landes and tenementes of the saide chirche and
 20 all other the goodes of the same as plate Iewelles ornautes of
 the saide chirche and to the same belonginge in whate place
 soeuer they maye be founde to entre and distreyne and the
 distresse ther founde and taken lawfully to beare lede and carye
 awaye and the same to with-holde vntill the saide rente with
 25 the arreragies if any fortune to be, be thenne fully satisfyede,
 contentede and payde.

And for the performance of all and singuler couenauntes
 aboute rehersed to be well and truely obseruede performede
 fulfilledde and kepte aswell on the partie of the saide Rector
 30 fealowes scolers and their successours, as on the partie of the
 saide william and william and their successours chirchwardens
 and the holle pariseners of the saide parishe nowe beinge alyve
 and for to come, the saide parties standethe bounden either to
 other in twoo seuerall obligacions conteyninge the somme of
 35 forty poundes, whiche obligacions beareth the date the daye and
 the yere of thes presentes.

Provydede always that whenne and as often as ther shalbe
 noo suffyciente curate to serue the cure, or that the curate ther
 for the tyme beinge shall mysordre hym selffe contrarye to the
 The Bishop reserves his right of appointing a

curate, if the
cure be left
vacant.

lawes, that itt shalbe allwayes lefull to the busshope of Lincoln and his offycers to depute and assigne an honeste suffyciente curate to *serue* the saide cure from tyme to tyme as necessyitie shall requyre duringe the saide terme.

[II. *Summary of the Bishop's approbation.*]

John Long-
land, bishop of
Lincoln, act-
ing under
Henry VIII,
Supreme Head
of the Church
of England,
attached his
seal to this
indenture,

Et nos Iohannes permissione diuina Lincolnensis episcopus, 5
auctoritate excellentissimi in christo principis et domini nostri,
domini henrici octauī, dei gratia anglie et francie
Confirmacio regis, fidei defensoris, domini hibernie, et in terra
eiusdem. sub christo supremi capitis ecclesie anglicane
auctoritate fulcitus, Concessionem, &c. . . . In quarum quidem 10
ratificacionis gratificacionis approbacionis et confirmacionis
fidem et testimonium, sigillum nostrum presentibus apponi
fecimus. Datum in manerio nostro de Wooborn . xxiiij^{to} die
mensis Ianuarij . Anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xxxix^o
Et nostre Consecracionis anno decimo nono. 15

at Wooburn
manor, Buck-
inghamshire,
24 January,
1539/40.

**LX: Will, 1540, of Richard Newcome, yeoman, of
Toynton St Peter's, near, Spilsby, Lincolnshire.**

From the Lincoln Consistory Court Book (1541), lf. 164 to lf. 165 bk.

This will, like John Asserby's Inventory (*supra*, p. 134), is from the records of the Lincoln Consistory Court. There is no apparent reason why Dr. Furnivall should have chosen this particular will out of the dozens of similar wills in that set of records. They are being edited by Canon C. W. Foster, F.S.A., and the volume which contains the wills prior to 1528 is nearly ready.

[I. *Full Text of English Will.*]

3 September,
32 Hen. VIII
(1540).

* In y^e name of god amen. Ye iij. day of september in y^e
I yere of our Lord god M^l cccc xlti y^e xxxij^{ti} yere of y^e
reyn of our sufferant lord kyng henry y^e eyght, wytnessethe
yt I, richard newcome, dwelling in nether tointon within y^e
cowntie of lincoln, yoman, with a holle mynd and good remem- 20
brance, make *this* my last wyll and testament, with my owne
hand, in *this* maner and forme here after foloynge :

Burial in
Toynton
St Peter's
church.

fyrst, I bequethe my soull to god almyghty to our blessyd
lady sent mary and to all y^e holy company of heven, and my
body to be buried within y^e churche of saynte peter in nether 25
toynton, in y^e myddell yell, and my mortuary to be gyuyn
after y^e custome of y^e countre.¹

Provision for
mortuary.

* lf. 164.

¹ = district.

Item, I bequethe to y^e hye alter of nether toynton for my tythes forgotten, xij d. Bequests to Low Toynton church and to Lincoln Minster.

Item, to our lady Wa[r]ke of lyncoln, xij d.

Item, to the church of nether toynton for my buryall, 5 vj s. viij d. Bequests to poor of the parishes of (a) High Toynton;

Item, to over toynton, for to be gyven to poore people ther beyng, xx d.;

Item, to gretham, to be delte amonge poore people ther dwelling, xx d.;

Item, to folowby, to be delte among poore people, xx d.;

Item, to asby, for poore peple, xx d.;

Item, to hornecastel, for poore people, ij s. (b) Greetham; (c) Fulletby; (d) Ashby; (e) Horn-castle;

Item, to Thomas newcome, my sonne, my violett gowne, one great bras pott, one chyst callyd a huche, and ten sheppe, iiiij. semmys of maltt; and ij. sterres of ij. yeres olde, and A gray 15 stagge. Bequests to testator's children (a) Thomas Newcome;

Item, to Iohn newcome, my sone, my rusyt [gown] with fur, and y^e fourt bras potte after my wyffe, iiiij. sterres, and iiij. kye, and x. sheppe, and iiiij. quarters of malte. (b) John Newcome;

Item, to wylliam newcome, my sonne, x. sheppe, ij. sterres, 20 and iiiij. quarters of malte. (c) William Newcome;

Item, to richarde newcome, my sonne, ij. sterres, x. sheppe, and iiiij. quarters of malte;

Item, to emme newcome, my dowghter, x. sheppe, ij. quyes, and iiiij. quarters of malte, and my wyffe worste gyrdyll. (d) Richard Newcome; (e) Emma Newcome;

Item, to Anne newcome, my dowghter, ten sheppe, ij. quyes, 25 iiiij. quarters of malte, A rede chyste and my fyrst wyffes beste gyrdyll. (f) Anne Newcome;

Item, I wyll y^t thomas newcome, my sonne, haue y^e pleace in nether toynton and all my landes and medows in nether 30 toynton and ouer toynton to hym and to hys heres of hys body lawfully begotten, after y^e decese of margytt my wyffe; and yf y^t fortune y^t god take my sonne thomas newcome without * heres of hys body lawfully begotten, then I wyll y^t y^e nexte sonne beyng alyue haue All y^e landes to hym and hys heyres of 35 hys body lawfully begotten; and yf y^t all my sonnes departe with-owt heyrres of ther bodyes lawfully begotten, then I wyll y^t all my lande remayne unto my dowghters (emme newcome and anne newcome) and to ther heyres of ther bodyes lawfully

Testator's lands in Low Toynton and High Toynton granted in life-rent to testator's wife Margaret Toynton, with remainder, successively, to testator's sons, (a) Thomas Newcome, and heirs of body; (b) other sons; (c) to testator's daughters, and heirs of body.

* If. 164 bk.

† If. 165.

If this succession fail altogether, the Low Toynton lands are to be sold to provide intercessory services in Low Toynton church, and to give alms. Bequest to testator's brother, Thomas Newcome.

begotten for euer; and yf yt fortune yt god tayke all them vj. chyl dren withowt heyres and yt my [wyfe] fortune to haue no moo chyl der to heyre my lande in nether toynton after hyr decease, then I wyll yt yt be soald and yt a preste be hyryd to pray for hyr father and mother soules, and me and my wyffe 5 and all our gud frendes, and in good dedes of pety to be bestowede, so longe as ye money doth laste; and I wyll ye preste to sing at neyer toynton.

Item, I wyll yt thomas newcome, my brother, haue my russytt cotte and my buckskyn dowblett. 10

The residewe of my goodes not bequethed (my dettes paide and ye legacies within namyde) I wyll yt margaret my wyffe haue to dyspose and order for my soull and hyrs.

Disposal of household goods.

Item, I wyll yt all my inward stuffe yt was myne before I maried my wyffe margaret be equally devyded among my 15 chyl der at ye discretyon of margaret my wyffe and thomas my sonne.

Disposal of two specially fine linen sheets.

Item, I wyll yt ye ij. lynne shettes wiche robert dawsons wyff of lincolne haith e in hyr kepinge of fynne clothe be delyuered ye one to william browne, and ye other to thomas browne. 20

Bestowal of plate and beads.

Item, I wyll yt ye viij. sponnys and ye harnest gyrdyll with ye bedis yt my oste's robert dawson wyffe of lincolne haith e in kepyng be delyuered unto ye said willyam browne and thomas browne; Item, I wyll yt my oste dawsonne do take a generall quyttance of ye said willyam browne and Thomas bothe for me 25 and hym selfe or elles kepe ye sponnys and gyrdyll with bedis to ye profyt of my heyres yt they may sell them and dyspose them in charytable dedes for ye soull of Thomas browne, wiche was ther father.

Money due to William Brown, to be paid in a lump sum, if he be have himself;

Also, I do owe vnto willyam browne wiche Edmunde 30 atkynson of lincolne hade and was deliuered vnto me, iij^{li} sterlinge wiche iii^{li} my executors shall pay trewly vnto ye said willyam browne yf he will thryue, to haue ye iij^{li} all holly att one tyme delyuered *yf he wyll play ye honest man in honest spendinge of yt to hys profytt and honestie, or elles to be gyuen 35 hymne by portyons as he shall stand moste nede of yt at ye syght of hys best fryndes.

otherwise, to be doled out to him.

Bequest to

Item, I wyll yt Elizabethe cootes my goddowghter dwelling

in conysby haue one of my qweys of [ij.] yeres olde and testator's god-daughter.
upwarde.

And of y^e my laste wyll I gyue full power and strenght vnto Executors
margarete my wyffe and Thomas my sonne, whome I constitute named,
5 and make my full executors to performe y^e testament as ys here
before saide, wherof I hertely pray and desyre whome I apoynte
and make superuisor of yis my wyll the Ryght worshopfull
mayster Edwarde dymoke to ayde and secure my wyffe with
hys counsell at hyr nede, And he for hys payns takyng to haue
10 xiijs. iiij d.

thes to record, Edward taylyer, preste; wylliam kynge,
Robert Smarte, charles barrytt.

[II. *Latin Record of Probate.*]

Penultimo die mensis Maij Anno domini Millesimo quin- Proved, before
gentesimo xlj^{mo}, coram magistro Iohanne pope, in ecclesia John Pope,
15 parochiali de horncastell presens testamentum fuit probatum, 30 May, 1541,
commissaque fuit administratio bonorum executoribus in forma in Horncastle church.
iuris iuratis.

**LXI: Lease, 1541¹, of the prebendship of Langford
Ecclesia (of Lincoln Minster) to William Genyver,
Langford.**

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, ff. 292
bk. to ff. 293 bk. See for this prebend *Godstow English Register* [E.E.T.S.],
p. 341.

[I. *Abbreviated¹ Text of the Indenture.*]

* **T**His Indenture made the xxijth daye² of marche In the Indenture,
xxxiiijth yere³ of the reigne of our souereigne lorde kynge made
20 henry the viijth, by the grace of god kyng of 22 March,
England, ffrauce and of Irelande, defender of 33 Hen. VIII
the ffaithe, and supreme hede of the church of (1541/2),
Englande and Ireland,
Indentura
Prebende
de langford
ecclesie.

25 the prebende called Langford ecclesia in the countie of oxon,
of the one partye, And william Genyuer, of Langford aforesaide
in the said countie of oxford, gentleman, of the other partye :
by which
Thomas
Berrett, pre-
bendary of
Langford
Ecclesia,
grants to
William
Genyver of
Langford, co.
Oxon.,

* ff. 292 bk.

¹ See note 1, p. 236.

² = two and twentieth daye.

³ = three and thirti yere.

a lease of the
estate of the
prebend
and all its
rights,

Wytnessyth that the said Thomas berrett hathe demysed
graunted and to fferme letten, and by these presentes dothe
demyse graunte and to fferme lett, vnto the said william
Genyver, his executours, and assignes, all that his saide prebend
of the Churche of Langforde aforesaide, *with all the landes tythes* 5
fructes commodityes and advauntagydes, with all and singuler
thappurtynaunces, vnto the sayde prebend belongyng or in
enywyse apperteyning,

but reserving
the advowson
of the
vicarage,

Except and allwayes reserued to the said thomas berrett and
his Successours, the patronage and gyfft of the vicarage there, 10
with all the rightes therunto belongyng.

for 80 yeres,

To haue and to holde all the foresaid prebende of the said
churche of Langforde, *with all the landes tithes fructes com-*
modytyes and advauntages, with all and singuler thappurty-
naunces, Except before excepted, vnto the saide william genyver, 15
his executours, and assignes, ffrom the feaste of * thannuntyacion
next commynyng after the date herof vnto thende and terme of
xxx^{ti} yeres from thense next ffolowyng fully to be complete
and ended,

at a net yearly
rent of £20,
payable half-
yearly,

the said William genyver or his assignes yeldyng and payng 20
therefore yerely duryng the said terme vnto the said thomas
berrett, his Successours, there executours, and assignes, Twentie
poundes sterlinge att twoo feastes of the yere, that is to say,
at the feaste of seincte Mighell tharchangell and thannunciacion
of our lady by even porcions to be paid duryng all the said 25
terme.

the tenant
paying also
£4 13s. 4d.
yearly to Lin-
coln Minster,

And the said William Genyver covenanteth and graunteth
to and *with* the said Thomas berrett prebendary that the said
william his executours and assignes duryng all the said terme
shall yerely content and paye or cause to be contented and 30
paide to the Cathedrall churche of lincoln iiij^{li} xiiij^s iiij^d for
the Septisdymes and other duetyes yerely to the said churche,
And to the prebendary in the laye fee in langford aforesaid¹
for the tyme beyng a yerely rent of iiij^s to be paid by the said
william genyver his executours or assignes att suche termes as 35
itt hathe bene heretofore accustomed.

and 4s. yearly
to Langford
Manor pre-
bend.

* 1E. 293.

¹ i.e. to Langford Manor prebend
in Lincoln Minster, also endowed

by land in this parish of Langford,
Oxfordshire.

- And also the said william Genyver couenaunteth and graunteth by these presentes to and with the saide Thomas berrett his Successours and assignes that if itt happen the saide yerely Rent of xx^{li} sterlinge or eny of the other paymentes before expressed to be behynde vnpaide in parte or in all after eny of the said ffeastes and dayes of payment before lymyted by the space of xiiijth dayes in which itt ought to be paide, That then itt shalbe lafull vnto the said thomas berrett his successours or there assignes into the said prebende and euery parcell therof to entre and distreine, and the distresse and distresses there so taken to leade dryve beare and carry awaye, and itt to withhold and kepe vntill suche tyme he the said thomas his successours or assignes be of the said rente, with tharreragies of the same (if eny be), fully contented & payd.
- 15 And if itt happen the said yerely rente of xx^{li} or eny of the other paymentes before expressed to be behynde vnpaide in parte or in all by the space of twoo monethes, That then itt shalbe lafull vnto the said thomas his Successors or assignes into the premisses and euery parcell therof hooly to reentre, and as in there ffirst estate to haue agayne and possede, This Indenture or enything therin conteyned to the contrary notwithstanding.

Powers of distraint, in case of neglect to pay the rent, are reserved.

Powers of re-entry are reserved, if the rent be long overdue.

- And the said thomas berrett covenauenteth and graunteth for hym and hissuccessours and assignes to dischargge the said william genyver his executours and assignes of allmaner of chardges and paymentes due to the kynges highnes duryng the said terme.

The lessor is to pay all King's taxes.

- And the said william Genyver . . . covenauenteth . . . to bere and pay all other chardgies aswell ordynary as extraordynary concernyng the said prebende, except Reparacions.
- 30 And that the said william genyver . . . shall pay for the workmanshipe of allmaner of necessarye reparacions, that is to saye, wallyng, lathyng, slatyng and thakkyng of the barne and stable and all other buyldynges therunto belongyng, duryng the said terme,

The lessee is to pay all other charges.

For repairs to the farm-buildings the tenant is to provide the workmanship.

- 35 And the said thomas berrett . . . to fynde allmaner of stuffe necessarye for the said reparacions duryng the said terme.

but the lessor is to find the materials.

Providede allwayes that itt is agreed betwene the said parties that the said thomas Berrett . . . shall well and suffyciently att . . . own propre costes and chardgies repaire and amende thorough

The lessor is to put the chancel into thorough

repair at the beginning of the lease, and afterwards the lessee is to keep it in repair.

the Chauncell of * the church of langforde aforesaid, And after the said chauncell so well and suffyciently repared the said William Genyver . . . to kepe the same . . . repayred . . . duryng All the saide terme.

In wytnes wherof the parties abovesaide to these present 5 indentures haue setto there seales the daye and yere above-wryten.

[II. *Summary of the Confirmation,*

by John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, in his lodging at Old Temple, London, 28 March, 1542.]

Et nos Iohannes, permissione diuina lincolniensis Episcopus, Illustrissimi in christo Principis et domini **Confirmacio** nostri, domini Henrici Octauī, &c. . . . Datum 10 eiusdem. in hospitio nostro apud vetus templum London., xxvii^o die mensis martii, Anno domini millesimo quingentesimo xli^o.

LXII: Lease, 1543, of pasture-land belonging to Leighton Bromeswold prebend, for forty years, with sanction of Dean and Chapter of Lincoln.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 299 to lf. 299 bk. This prebend is now called Leighton-Beaudesert.

[I. *Text¹ of the Indenture.*]

Indenture, made 12 May, 35 Hen. VIII (1543),

* **T**His Indenture made the twelueth daye off Maye in the xxxv. yere of the reigne of oure souereigne Lorde kinge 15 Henry the eighte by the grace of god kinge of Englande ffrauce and Irelande defendoure of the faithe and of the chirche off Englande and also of Irelande in earthe the supreme hedde, 20

by which Gilbert Smyth, clerk, prebendary,

betwene master gilbert Smyth, clerke, prebendarye of the prebeud of Leighton Bromeswolde within the cathedrall chirche of Lincoln in the countie of huntington, on that one partie,

leases to Thomas Ashetone, of Old Weston, Huntingdonshire,

and Thomas Ashetone, of olde Weston in the countie of huntington aforesaide, yoman, on that other partie, 25

* lf. 293 bk.

† lf. 299.

¹ With omissions of technical reiterations.

Witenessithe that the saide prebendarye, with the consentes and agrementes of the deane and chapitoure of the saide cathedrall chirche of Lincoln, hathe demysede graunted betaken & to ferme letten and by thies presentes dymysethe . . . to the
 5 saide Thomas Ashetone all that his close, with thappurtenaunces, nowe in the tenure of Robart Saye, belonginge to the saide prebendarye as in the righte of the saide prebend lyinge and beinge in the parishe of Leighton in the saide countie of Huntington :

a close of pasture belonging to his prebend,

- 10 That is to saye : againste hamerton felde on the northe partie, and nexte vnto a nother close of the sayde Gilbert lately in the tenure of Robart Thurlby on the southe partie, whereof the one hedde abbuttethe ayenste Salome wodde on the este partie, and thother hedde vpon weston felde on the weste partie,
 15 with all other prouffites and commodities to the saide close belonginge or appertayninge,

(the four boundaries of which are distinctly set down),

- To haue and to holde the saide close, with thappurtenaunces, for 40 years, to the saide Thomas and his assignes, frome the feaste of seincte mighell tharchaungell next cominge after the date hereof vnto
 20 thende and terme of ffourtie yeres than nexte ensuinge and fully to be completede and endede :

- yeldinge and painge therefore yerely duringe the saide terme to the saide gilbert his successours or assignes ffive poundes of lawfull money of englond att twoo termes of the yere, that is to
 25 saye, att the feastes of the Annunciacion of oure ladye seincte marye the virgine and seincte Mighell tharchaungell by euen porcions.

at the net yearly rent of £5, payable half-yearly..

- And if itt shall fortune the saide yerely rente . . . to be behynde . . . by the space of one monethe if itt be reasonablye
 30 requyrede, Than itt shalbe lefull vnto the saide gilbert . . . to come into the saide close and ther to distreyne, and the distresses so taken to . . . kepe vnto suche tyme as the saide yerely rente and euery parte and parcell thereof with thearrieragies of the same be fully contentede and paide.

Powers of distraint reserved, if rent is not duly paid.

- 35 And if the foresaide yerely rente or anye parte thereof fortune to be vnpaide after anye of the saide feastes in which itt oughte to be paide duringe the saide terme by the space of Sixe wekes and noo distresse founde vpon the saide grounde sufficiente for the rente, than itt shalbe lefull to the saide gilbert . . . into the

Powers of re-entry reserved, if rent is long in arrears.

saide closse with thappurtenaunces to reentre and haue ayen and them as in their firste estate to repossede, and the saide Thomas . . . thereof to expell and putte oute, this indenture or anye thinge therein conteynede to the contrarye notwithstandinge.

5

Special powers of lopping and cutting down trees and bushes granted to lessee, on condition that he keep up the outer fence of the close.

And the saide gilbert for hym and his successours covenantede and grauntede by thies presentes that itt shalbe lefull vnto the saide Thomas . . . to stubbe grubbe shrede and plashe att all tymes within the saide terme, Soo that the saide Thomas . . . kepe the ffence of the saide closse with thappurtenaunces for and duringe that terme of the saide ffourtie yeres.

10

And also the saide gilbert . . . covenantede . . . that . . . the saide Thomas . . . for the foresaide yerely ferme of five ponde . . . shall . . . enioye the saide closse with thappurtenaunces duringe the saide terme of ffortie yeres by thies presentes.

15

In witenes whereof the saide parties to thies indentures enterchaungeably haue sette their seales. Yeven the daye and yere aboue Writen.

[II. *Summary of Confirmation,*

by John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, at Buckden manor, 24 July, 1543.]

* Et nos Iohannes, permissione diuina Lincolnensis Episcopus, auctoritate invictissimi in christo principis et Domini nostri, 20
domini henrici octauī, dei gratia Anglie francie
Confirmacio et Hibernie Regis, fidei defensoris, et in terra,
eiusdem. [etc.] . . . Datum nostro sub sigillo In manerio
nostro de Bugden, vicesimo quarto die mensis Iulij . Anno
Domini Millesimo quingentesimo quadragesimo tercio, Ac 25
nostre Consecrationis anno vigesimo tercio.

LXIII: Lease, 1544, of the prebend of Stoke, near Newark-on-Trent, with its members in the shires of Nottingham and Lincoln.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda at Lincoln, lf. 229 bk. to lf. 230 bk.

The lands and churches which endowed this prebend in Lincoln Minster lie to the east and south-east of Newark-on-Trent, and partly in Nottinghamshire and partly in Lincolnshire. Their dispersed character suggest particular inquiry as to the conditions which prevailed when this prebend was

* lf. 299 bk.

so endowed. It is possible that, to account for them, we may have to go back to a time when the uncertain activities of Trent made it doubtful what lands were in Notts. and what lands in Lincs. Compare the shifting of the shire-line between Oxon., and Berks, south of Oxford, due to the change of its main stream by the Thames: Wood's *City of Oxford* i. 415.

[*I. Slightly abbreviated text of the Indenture.*]

* **T**his Indenture made the seven and twentithe daye of Aprill
in the xxxvj. yere of the reigne of oure souereigne Lorde
Henry theighte, by the grace of god of Englande

Indenture,
made 27 April,
36 Hen. VIII
(1544),

Indentura
Prebende
5 de Stoke.

ffraunce and Ireland kinge, defendoure of the
faithe, and in earthe of the chirche of England
and Ireland the supreme hedde,

betwene Iohn pope, clerke, Chaunceloure of the cathedrall
chirche of Lincoln, prebendarye and parson of the prebend and
personage of Stoke in the countie off Nottingham, with other
10 porcions and appurtenaunces therto apperteyninge and belonginge
in the counties of Nottingham and Lincoln, on the one partie,

by which
John Pope,
prebendary,

and Anthonye ffoster of Newarke in the saide countie of
Nottingham, gentilman, on the other partie,

granted An-
thony Forster,
of Newark-on-
Trent, co.
Notts.,

Witenessithe that the saide Iohn pope, clerke, hathe cove-
15 naunted, graunted, dymysede, and to ferme letten, & by thies
presentes . . . to ferme lettithe, vnto the saide Anthonye
ffoster . . . all his saide prebend and personage of Stoke¹ in
the countie of notingham with all and singuler the porcions,
tuythes, landes and prouffites of Elston,² Surston, the personage
20 of Coddington, the litle tuythe of Newarke, the tuythe hey of
Tolney with a crosse and rentes of assise ther, the porcions of
ffarendon, Balderton and Thorpe, with the moytie tuythes and
prouffites of the personage of Rawceby³ in the counties of
Nottingham and Lincoln aforesaide, with all and all maner of
25 other portions, tuythes, with their appurtenaunces, belonginge
or appertayninge to the same, or that of right oughte to belonge
or appertayne vnto the saide prebend of Stoke, with all and
singuler the glebe lande pastures meadowes inclosures tuythes
oblacions prouffites emolumentes hereditamentes and commo-
30 dities belonginge to the saide prebend and portions aboue saide

a lease of his
prebend of
Stoke, and all
its members,
co. Notts. and
co. Lincs.,

* If. 229 bk.

don, Balderton, Thorpe, in Notting-
hamshire.

¹ East Stoke, Nottinghamshire.

² Elston, Syerston, Coddington,
Newark-upon-Trent, Tilney, Farn-

³ Rauceby, Lincolnshire.

or whiche bene reputed taken acceptede or knowen as parte or parcell of the said prebend :

reserving the
advowson of
East Stoke
Vicarage, co.
Notts.,
for 50 years,

Excepte and reservede vnto the saide Iohn pope, prebendarye, the patronage and gyfte of the vicarage of Stoke aforesaide as often as itt shall fortune to fall voide duringe the saide terme. 5

To haue and to holde all the sayde prebend and personage of Stoke in the countie of Notingham aforesaid with the porcions of Elston, Syreston, the personage of Coddington, the litle tuythe of Newark, . . . and all and singuler the premysse (excepte before exceptede) to the saide Anthonye fforster . . . 10
frome the feaste of the Inuention of the holie crosse nexte . . . ensuinge after the date of thies presentes vnto thende and terme of fyftie yeres than nexte folowinge . . .

at the net
yearly rent of
£43 12s. 6d.,
payable half-
yearly,

yeldinge and paynge therefore yerely . . . to the abouenamede Iohn pope . . . ffourtie and thre poundes twelue shillings and 15
sixe pence of good and lafull money of England att twoo termis of the yere by equall porcions. That is to saye att the feaste of the Inuencion off the holie crosse and seincte Martyn in wynter within the precincte * of the Cathedrall chirche of Lincoln, The firste paymente thereof to begynne in the feaste 20
of the Inuencion of the holie crosse nexte after the date hereof at the firste entre of the saide Anthonye and his assignes in and to the prebend and personage of Stoke and other the premisses.

within the
precinct of
Lincoln
Minster.

Right of dis-
traint re-
served, if rent
be not duly
paid.

And itt is covenantede and agrede betwene the sayde parties 25
that if itt happen the saide rentes or anye porcions or parte thereof to be behynde vnpaide after anye of the saide feastes att the whiche itt oughte to be paide by the space of sixe wekes, than itt shalbe lefull to the saide Iohn pope and his successours . . . to entre and distreyn in all and euerye porcion and parte 30
of the said prebend . . . and the distresses soo taken to leade dryue and carye awaye and the same to deteigne vnto suche tyme as the saide rentes . . . be fully contentede . . . and paide.

Right of re-
entry reserved,
if rent be long
in arrear.

And if itt fortune the saide rentes to be behynde vnpaide 35
. . . after anye of the saide termes by the space of twoo holle monethes and be lafully demaunded . . . , than itt shalbe lefull to the saide Iohn Pope . . . into the saide prebend and per-

sonage . . . to reentre and the saide Anthonye fforster . . . clerely to putte oute and expell and them to haue and enioye in as good estate and condicion as if noo suche lease thereof hadde bene made.

5 And the saide Anthonye fforster covenautethe and grauntethe that he . . . shall well and suffyciently repayre sustayne and mayntayne all maner of reparacions of thack and mortar hedginge and dichinge of all maner of housinges buyldinges walles hedges and diches belonginge to the saide prebend & the
10 porcions aboue mencionede contynually frome tyme to tyme as necessitie shall requyre duringe the saide terme And att thende of the same terme shall leave all the premysses in like maner honestly and sufficiently repairede

Lessee to be responsible for repair of buildings and fences.

and shall fynde an honeste sufficiente priste contynually
15 duringe the terme abouesaide att his and their own propre costes . . . to serue the cure in the moytie of the parische chirche of Rawceby aforesaide.

Lessee to provide for cure of moiety of Rauceby parish, co. Lincs.

And also shall beare . . . all oþer chardgies . . . appertayninge to the prebend of Stoke and the porcions aboue
20 speciefede yerly from yere to yere duringe the terme abouesaide.

Lessee to bear other ordinary charges.

(Excepte dismes tenthes subsidies firste fructes due or to be due or comethe . . . of or for the premysses . . . duringe the terme aforesaide vnto oure souereigne lorde the kinge or his
25 successours, the reparacions of the chauncell of Stoke,¹ Codington, Sireston, and Rawceby aboue mencyonede, and excepte also sepdismes and all other dueties or chardgies whiche shalbe yerely due vnto the vicars chorall and the choristers of the chirche of Lincoln duringe the same terme. All whiche the
30 afore namede master Iohn pope and his successours their executours and assignes shall sustayne beare and yerely paye att his and their onely propre costes and chardgies duringe the saide terme, and the saide Anthonye and his assignes thereof to be dischargede and acquytete.)

But the lessor (i. e. the prebendary) is to be responsible for (a) all taxes due to the king; (b) all repairs of chancels of the four churches; (c) all dues to Lincoln Minster.

35 In witenes whereof the parties abouesaide haue enterchaungeablye to thies indentures putt their seales the daye and yere abouesaide.

¹ East Stoke, Coddington, Syerston, in Nottinghamshire, and Rauceby, in Lincolnshire.

[II. *Summary of Confirmation,*

by John Longland, bishop of Lincoln, at Wooburn Manor, Buckinghamshire, 20 August, 1544.]

Et nos, Iohannes, permissione diuina Lincolniensis Episcopus,
 auctoritate illustrissimi in christo principis, etc.
Confirmacio Concessione ad exercendum iurisdictionem
eiusdem. ecclesiasticam infra diocesim nostram Lincol-
 niensem . . . Concessionem dimissionem et locationem . . . in 5
 indenturis presentibus annexis specificatas ratas habentes et
 gratas, etc. . . * Datum in manerio nostro de Wooborne vice-
 simo die mensis Augusti . Anno domini Millesimo quingente-
 simo xliiij^{to}, Et nostre Consecracionis anno xxiiij^{to}.

* lf. 300 bk.

APPENDIX : ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Canon Foster has rendered the E.E.T.S. the very great service of furnishing exact transcripts of five interesting documents, which are also of great value to this volume because they supplement the information contained in the documents formerly transcribed for the Society. Inasmuch as all five fall within the limits of Dr. F. J. Furnivall's period, and are of equal importance with those noted by him for transcription, I conclude that their omission by him was an oversight. It is, therefore, with great pleasure, that I am enabled to give the text of them here.

Canon Foster also tells me that at the end of bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda there are copies of five indentures of the same type as those included in this volume, viz. :

Lease for 40 years of a pasture in the parish of Leighton, Huntingdonshire, belonging to the prebend of Leighton Bromeswold, dated 7 August, 34 Henry VIII (1542): bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, lf. 308 bk.

Lease for 40 years of the parsonage of Farendon and Balderton, excepting the presentations to the vicarages of those two places, dated 20 April, 34 Henry VIII (1543): bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, lf. 307, 308, 308 bk.

Lease for 31 years of the rectory of Mumby in the parts of Lyndesey, Lincolnshire, excepting the advowson of the vicarage there, dated 10 January, 36 Henry VIII (1544 $\frac{4}{5}$): bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, lf. 303 bk. and 304.

Lease for 21 years of that portion of the prebend of Dunham, Lincolnshire, which is called 'the canon landes and tuythes', &c., in the parish of Hogham, Lincolnshire, dated 20 January, 36 Henry VIII (1544 $\frac{4}{5}$): bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, lf. 302 bk. and 303.

Lease for 35 years of the prebend of Langford Ecclesia, Oxfordshire, excepting the advowson of the vicarage there, dated 12 May, 37 Henry VIII (1545): bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, lf. 304 and 304 bk.

There are many similar leases in English enrolled in the Acts of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln from 1520 downwards, and probably some of even earlier date.

From the space which these occupy in the Register, it is unlikely that they were accidentally overlooked by Dr. Furnivall when he went through that volume. I conclude, therefore, that he intentionally passed them over, either because their inclusion would have meant too many documents of the later date, or because their subject-matter was, in his judgement, adequately represented in the documents he had already noted for transcription. If either supposition is correct, I have done right in excluding these from the present volume.

Bishop Longland's Register is divided into two portions: (i) *Institutions* to benefices, which do not concern us here, and (ii) *Memoranda*, records of proceedings of general interest, from which all the documents here contained (for his episcopate) have been taken. The Register has recently been re-folioed, and, by the thoughtful kindness of Canon Foster, F.S.A., the new and permanent references have been substituted for the haphazard folios found at the time when the transcript was made.

Appendix I: Vow of celibacy, circ. 1452, by Agnes Baldwyn, widow.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 7. The formal Latin record of the vow, which would have given the date, seems absent. The date is about 1452. The vow was taken before a bishop acting as deputy for the diocesan. This bishop was Thomas Salscot, bishop of Enaghduin (or Annaghduin) in Ireland, suffragan of Lincoln, 1449, and of Exeter, 1458 (Stubbs, *Registrum Sacrum*, edit. 2, p. 209).

1452 (?)
Agnes
Baldwyn,
widow, before
the deputy of
the Bishop
of Lincoln,
took on her
the vow of
chastity.

* In the name of the fadre and the sonne and the holy goste, I,
Agnes Bawdewynne, wydow, and not wedded ne vnto no
man ensured, be hote and make a vowe to
god & to oure lady and to all the com-
panye of hevyn, in the presence of you 5
worshipful fadre in god, Thomas, Bysshop
enachdunensis, ordeyned and assigned by my worshipful ffadre
and lord the Bisshop of lincoln, for to be chaste of my body and

* lf. 7.

trevly shal kepe me chaste from this tyme forward as longe as my liff lastyth after the reule of saint poule. In nomine patris et filii et spiritus sancti, Amen.

Appendix II: Vow of celibacy, 1454, by
Isabel Maryon, widow.

From bishop John Chedworth's Register at Lincoln, lf. 18 bk. and lf. 19. The Latin text is of interest as stating distinctly the official dress (veil and cloak) of these votresses: see *supra*, p. 20.

* Memorandum quod die dominica, x^{mo} videlicet die Nouembris 10 Nov., 1454
5 Anno domini millesimo CCCC. l. quarto, Reverendus in before John Chedworth,
christo pater et dominus, dominus Johannes dei gracia lin- Bishop of
colnensis Episcopus, pontificalibus indu- Lincoln, in his
Admissio voti tus in Capella sua infra hospitium suum episcopal
Isabelle Maryon. apud vetus templum London. situatum, chapel, at
10 intra missarum solempnia, votum Isabelle Old Temple,
Marionn per ipsam lectum et factum recepit et admisit et velum London,
ac mantellum viduitatis per ipsum Reuerendum Patrem conse- during mass,
crata dicte vidue impendit et eam induit cum eisdem, presenti and after
bus Magistris Willhelmo Wytham legum doctore, Johanne formal
15 Rudyng, Thoma Estyntone et Thoma Whitfeld presbiteris blessing of
ministrantibus et aliis & bugge.¹ Forma verborum voti emissi the veil and
sunt hec: cloak, which
he then put
on her,

In the name of the fadir and the sone and the holy goste, I, Isabel Maryon,
Isabelle Maryone, of your diocese, wydowe, behest and avowe to widow, took
20 god and oure lady saint Mary and to all the saintys, in youre on her the
presence Reuerend fader in crist Sir John, by the grace of god vow of
Bysshope of lincoln, for to be chaste and purpose to kepe me chastity,
chaste from this tyme forward aslonge as my lyff lastithe. In
witteneese wherof I subscribe here with myn owne hande— and attested
25 & faciebat crucem +. it by marking
the record
with a cross.

Appendix III: Will, 1531, of William Rayne,
of Cottesbrook, Northamptonshire.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, at Lincoln, lf. 227 bk. and lf. 228. This will is of interest as showing that a priest, in charge of intercessory services, was sometimes lodged and boarded in the house

* lf. 18 bk.

+ lf. 19.

¹ John Bugg, notary public: *supra*, pp. 112, 116.

of the person who had left money for these services. This possibly explains the residence of a priest in dame Joan Buckland's household (*supra*, pp. 39, 40); he may have been hired by her to do intercessory services for her deceased husband.

[I. *Full Text of the Will.*]

26 Nov. 1531.

In the name of God, Amen. The xxviti day of nouember in the yere of our Lord M.CCCCC. and xxxi. I, William Rayne, being seke in body and hole off Testamentum Willelmi remembraunce and good of memory, Rayne de Cottisbrok. make my Testament and last will in 5 this maner of Wise.

Burial in Cottisbrook church.

First, I bequeth my soule to almighty god and to our lady saint mary & all the company of heuen, and my body to be buried in the parishe chirche of all Halouse of Cottisbroke in our lady yle.

10

Item, I bequeth to the mother chirche off Lincoln iiij d.

Bequests to Cottisbrook church.

Item, I bequeth to the high autler¹ for forgotten tithes, iij s.

iiij d. Item, I bequeth to the chirche of Cottisbroke² vj s. viiij d.

Bequests of choice articles of raiment and of horses to overseers and executors of the will.

Item, I bequeth to Mr. Doctor Rayne my double duckett.

Item, I bequeth to Mr. John Hasilwood esquire a grett gray 15 mayre and a Jerkyn of saten.

Item, I bequeth to Mr. John Cornishe parson off Cottisbrok a gray colte of ij. yeres of age and a gaberdyne faced with sarcenet.

Item, I bequeth to Sir Henry bentley a yereling colt and my 20 black furred gowne and my saye doublett.

Intercessory services to be continued for five years, by a priest receiving yearly £2 13s. 4d. with board and lodging, or else £5 yearly.

Item, I will that my wife and myn Executoures fynd a preste v yeres to pray for me and all my benefactoures and for all christen soules, and he to haue for his wagies v li. a yere, excepte that 25 he be att my wifes bording and bedding, and if he soo be then he shall haue iiij. markes³ a yere.

Preference to be given to Henry Bentley, priest. Bequests of sheep,

Also, I will that sir Henry do sing for me. And also I will that if the preste can nott agree with my wife then he shall have v. li. by the yere and to fynde hym selfe. 30

Item, I bequeth to euery godchilde that I haue within the parishe of Cottisbrok oon shepe.

* If. 227 bk.

¹ Of Cottisbrook.

² The fee for a grave in the church: *supra*, p. 95.

³ £2 13s. 4d.

Item, I bequeth to Margarete Hilton my seruante x. ewes x. hoggerelles x. wethers x. thewis and oon cowe or of cattle, heifer.

Item, I bequeth to Jane Hay a yereling, that is to say, a cowe
5 heifer.

Item, I bequeth to Jane page a yereling, that is to say, a cowe heifer.

Item, I bequeth to William Ingram a heifer and vj. thewys.

10 Item, I bequeth to Thomas firere a kowe and x. shepe of the drathes of hoggerelles.

Item, I bequeth to Robert Gefferay oon yereling bullock.

Item, I bequeth to yong John Robertes vj. culling lambes and quarter barley att sede tyme. and of grain.

15 Item, I bequeth to William speser¹ vj. culling lambes and oon quarter of barley at sede tyme.

Item, I bequeth to Robert orme iij s. iiij d.

Bequests
of money.

Item, I bequeth to Sir Rauff Ashton iij s. iiij d.

Item, I bequeth to the poore people of creton iij s. iiij d.

20 Item, I bequeth to the poore people of Holwell, xij d.

Bequests to
the poor of
Creton,
Holwell,
Guilsborough,
Northtoft,
Naseby, and
Hazelbeech,
Northampton-
shire.

Item, I bequeth to the poore people of Gilboroo and north tofte
iij s. iiij d.

Item, I bequeth to the poore people of Naisby iij s. iiij d.

Item, I bequeth to the poore people of Haselbeche iij s. iiij d.

25 Also, I will that suche chardgies and costes that my ouersears of my will shalbe att for the ouerseing of the performance of my will I will that myn Executoures do content them and eueryche of them for ther chardgies and costes without eny interrupcion therof.

Overseers of
the will to be
allowed all
expenses.

30 The residue of my goodes vnbequethed I give them to Jane my wife,* for the performance of this my will and to pay my debtes, whome I ordeyne and make my Executrice and Mr. John Hasilwood and sir Henry Bentley to Be executours With hir, and for my ouersears of this my will I make Mr. Doctor Rayne
and Overseers
named,
35 and Mr. John Cornishe parson of Cottisbrok.

Witenes herof Master John Cornishe parson of cottisbrok, sir Robert orme, sir Henry bentley, sir Raff astounne with other moo.

* lf. 228.

¹ or spefer.

Entertain-
ment of priests
attending
funeral.

Also, I will that every preste that is att my buryall haue vi d. and his dyner, and, if they dyne nott, to have viij d.

Also, I bequeth to Robert Houghtonne half a quarter of barley att sede tyne.

[II. *Full Text of Probate.*]

Proved before
John Rayne,
LL.D.,

in Lyddington
Church,
Rutland,
6 April, 1532.

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testamentum coram venerabili 5 viro magistro Johanne Rayne vtriusque Juris doctore, Reverendi in Christo patris et domini domini Johannis permissione diuina Lincolniensis Episcopi vicario in spiritualibus generali et officiali principali, in ecclesia prebendali de Lyddington sexto die mensis Aprilis Anno domini millesimo quinquagesimo xxxij^{do}, 10 commissa administracione omnium et singulorum bonorum et debitorum executoribus supraspecificatis, in forma Juris iuratis, etc.

Appendix IV : Persecution of Protestants, Paris, 1535.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, at Lincoln, lf. 258 bk., 259, 259 bk. The preceding document is dated at Lincoln, 13 May, 1535; the document following is dated at Wooburn 24 May, 1535. Inasmuch as in this part of the Register the documents follow each other very closely in order of date, the receipt of the letter by the Bishop must be about the middle of May 1535.

The persecution of 'heretics' in France here mentioned, the scattering about in the streets of Paris of pamphlets deriding the doctrine of Transubstantiation, the great expiatory procession in Paris, the king's fierce speech against 'heretics', and the public burning of several 'heretics', are all set out in the larger histories of France. It is, however, something new to find a vivid description of these incidents from the pen of an English eyewitness. It is more minute and exact, apparently, than the French record cited by Sismondi. A quaint touch is added by the haste of the letter-carrier to be off which prevented the writer from fair-copying his letter.

The chief persons mentioned are—King François I, his consort Eleanor of Austria, his eldest son (Francis the Dauphin, born 1517, and now eighteen years old, died 10 Aug. 1536), his second son Henri (born 1519, and now sixteen years old, succeeded as Henri II in 1547), his third son Charles (d. 1545), the two princesses (Madeleine, afterwards consort of James V of Scotland, and Margaret, afterwards Duchess of Savoy), Jean de Guise, of Lorraine, born 1498, Cardinal since 1518, Jean du Bellay, bishop of Paris.

It is recorded that the Ambassadors of foreign powers, then present at the French Court, were spectators of the procession. Bishop John Longland's correspondent may well have been someone of importance in the English ambassador's suite. It is interesting that the letter should be in English, and good English, and not in Latin. Two or three odd things are found in it, e.g. (i) the use of the French *semblablement* instead of the

English *semblably*, suggestive of a person resident in France and constantly speaking French; (ii) the phonetic spelling of *le Châtelet*, suggestive of a foreigner, unfamiliar with the spelling of the names of Parisian buildings. The Swiss would be of interest to English readers because Henry VIII had in 1521 asked the Cantons for leave to enlist Swiss in his service. The Ste. Geneviève procession is described in a letter of la Marquise de Sévigné.

[Full Text of the Letter.]

* Such enewes as we haue here in Parrys I have sent you, As touchinge suche as of late hathe chaunced amonges vs. Pleasith itt you to be aduertised that nott withstandinge the severe iustice whiche of late hathe been executed vpon thise Antechristes, which, besyd many erronyouse opynyons, soo blasphemously oppugneth the mooste blessed sacrament of the aulter, Ther was within thise fewe dayes by the stretes of parrys scateryd bookes whiche was Intituled PARANTIPHRASYN † scilicet, 10 a right prouffitable Intreatise concernynge the Sacrament of the aulter, Wherein, as they say, were scasely soo many sentences as blasphemyes contrary to the said sacrament. Wherewith the kynge was highly offended,¹ And for as muche as he thought that he hadd doon as 15 muche before as in hym was for the extirpacion of this heresye, and itt litle had proufftyed, He thought then noo other refuge butt onely of god to whome pryncipally this matter appertayned. Wherupon the xxiti day of this monethe of January be comaunded a generall procession to be maade by the hole Citie and the vnyuersitie 20 of Parrys, In whiche this was thordre:

ffirste, the sherive² of saint Genouefes, whiche is neuer doon without grette and vrgent causes, accompayned with dyuers parishes with suche 25 reliques as they hadd brought, vpon xxiti mennys backes bare foted and all naked savinge their shirtes,³ to notre Dames with⁴ the Cathedrall chirche, Thabbott and the monkes folowinge bare foted deuoutely sayinge and synginge, and with

Paris, January, 1534/5, in the English reckoning; 1535 in the French. In spite of severities against heretics, who impugn the doctrine of Transubstantiation, a virulent pamphlet against that doctrine was recently scattered broadcast in Paris,

to the grievous displeasure of king François I,

by whose order there took place, on 21st January, an expiatory procession in which both the city and the University of Paris took part.

I. The shrine of Ste. Geneviève, the patron-saint of Paris, borne by twenty-one men in deeply penitent guise, and attended by representatives of Parisian parishes carrying relics treasured by their respective churches, and by the Abbot and Monks of Ste. Geneviève's, and the Jacobin Friars went from Ste. Geneviève church

* If. 258 bk. † If. 259.

¹ A copy of it had been nailed to the door of the king's lodging at Blois.

² *sic* = sheriue, in error for

'shrine', i. e. la chässe (destroyed at the Revolution).

³ 'was borne' is needed here.

⁴ 'with' = which is.

to Notre-Dame, where other clerics, regular and secular, with other treasured relics, had already assembled.

II. Then, reinforced by these, and by the clergy and choir of Notre-Dame, the procession went to St. Germain-l'Auxerrois near the Louvre. From the Louvre Palace, preceded by the relics of the Chapel Royal, came the King, Queen, and Court to join the assembly.

III. From St. Germain-l'Auxerrois, the procession, thus augmented, returned to Notre-Dame, viz.
(i) the Franciscan friars;

(ii) the Queen, two Princesses, and the ladies of the Court;

iii) the Jacobin friars;

(iv) the Austin friars;
(v) the Carmelite friars;
(vi) other clerics (regular and secular);
(vii) graduates of the University, and others, all bearing tapers, and carrying their special relics;

(viii) the monks of Ste. Geneviève's and those of St. Marcell, walking abreast;

them came the Jacobyns to the said chirche, where was gathered togydre the thre other ordres,¹ with other religiouse houses and curates of chirches with suche reliques as euery man hadde, taryinge their comynge.

This doon, they all ther assemblede, with Canons and with the Cathedrall quere with other reliques, as of saint James, Philipp, Marcell, barbara, Genouefa, etc., went to saint Germayns nere to the kynges Palice named the Lower. Thidre 10 was brought reliques of the kyng his chappell, namely the holy crosse, the crowne of thorne. To the whiche place the kyng, the quene, the dolffyn, with other his sonnes and doughters, the prynces, and nobles of his courte, came from thens, 15

and soo returned, all in ordre, to notre Dames before named;

ffirste, was the cordelyars, in nombre to my Judgement V,² and in the latter ende of them came the quene on horse backe, accompayned with 20 twoo of the kynges doughters and Lx or above of ladies decked all after the ffrenche ffashion in mooste goodlieste wise, untill they came directly before the chirche, where the quene alighted and taryed the comynge of the kyng in a house 25 provided for hir.

After the Cordelyars came the Jacobyns, as many in nombre as the other.

Consequently, the Augustynnes, Carmes, monkes, religiouse men, Curates of parishes, lycentiattes, 30 and doctoures (noo other I will reherse here, for the nombre is in maner infynyte), With tapers euery man in their handes, and suche notable reliques as thay hadd.

Hereafter folowed the monkes of saint Genoveffes 35 of the oon syde of the streate, and of saint Marcell's of the other syde.

¹ Cordeliers (Franciscans), Carmes (Carmelites), Augustin Friars,

² Read V^c = five hundred.

After them came the sherives of bothe thise saintes, (ix) the shrines of these
oon againste a nother, caryinge as I declared before. two saints borne abreast;

After them came the Canons and quere of the kynges (x) the clergy and choir of
chappell and cathdrall chirche. the Chapel Royal and of
Notre-Dame;

5 And after them came the sweffes¹ euery man with (xi) the Swiss javelin-
his Javelinge in his hande. men;

Then folowes them the gentilmen of the courte. (xii) the courtiers;

And after them came v. or vi. busschoppes, iiij. car- (xiii) church dignitaries,
dynalles, with other grette men of the courte spirituall, including bishops and
10 beringe also certayne reliques. cardinals, carrying
reliques;

After whome came iii. of the kynges sonnes, havinge (xiv) the King's sons, in
the iiij. with them whiche caryed the Canapy ouer the attendance on the Host,
Sacrament whiche the busshoppe of parrys bare. carried by the Bishop
of Paris;

the kynge folowinge ymmediately on fote, open heded, and (xv) the King,
15 a torche in his hande, havinge the Cardynall lorrayne on his and the Car-
leste hande, syde by syde. dinal of Lor-
raine;

And after hym, in that parte, the prynces and other nobles (xvi) in triple
of the courte; and in the right hande, the prymour presydent line of march,
of the parliament, whome folowed the counsaile[r]s of the same, on left hand,
20 with other of other places of Justice, and all those in scarlett, the great lords
of the Court;
And in the myddest of thise twoo, straye after the kynge came, on right hand,
in red robes,
Lx or above of noble men, with torches as he didd. The Parlement and other legal
bodies; and, in
wherefore he putt the parliament on his right hande was to the midst, a
row of nobles
35 lyvinge were he neuer soo noble or dere beloved to hym. carrying
torches;

Then folowed the mayour of the towne, with his (xvii) the Corporation of
officers and Aldermen. Paris, and their officers;

And after them the kynges garde, and the garde of (xviii) the Royal guards
the towne with hawberdes in their handes and stavis. and the Municipal
guards.

30 And as for the multytude of comyns that were The spectators were be-
there, I cannott nombre. yond count.

And whenne the kynge came before the chirche, IV. In front of Notre-
the quene (beinge caryed betwixt iiij. men in hir Dame, the Queen and
chayre), with the kynges doughters, folowed hym into Princesses joined the
King, and passed with
35 the chirche, where was a solempne masse songe, sem- him, to be present at
blablement as itt is vpon Corpus christi daye. What High Mass, to which this
highe solemnitye was doon ther, itt was nott possible writer could not get in.
to entre to see.

¹ Swiss; François I, by a convention with the Swiss cantons, had leave to enlist Swiss mercenaries.

V. I heard the crowd urge the King to show no mercy to heretics. This was entirely to his mind.

In the course of the afternoon, six condemned heretics were publicly burned at the stake,

as also three sackfuls of heretical books.

VI. Dinner was served in the palace of the Bishop of Paris, and there, in a long speech, the King, after enlarging upon the assured orthodoxy of his predecessors, which had earned for them the title of 'Most Christian Princes', a title which he, for his part, would not tarnish or forfeit,

required all his subjects, cleric or laic, to follow his example, under severest penalties,

and quoted Scripture to justify his action.

Burnings, imprisonments with the stake in prospect, banishments,

And as the kyng passed¹ before the chambre that I stode in the people whiche stode in the streate, laudyng the kyng as he was mooste worthieste for this noble acte, cryed to hym * Sir, do good Justice! Whome, with lovinge countenance, he badde to be content, as who wolde saye that they shulde nott nede to feare that. And that he shortely after declared, for, ymmediatly after dyner, was hadde oute of the Schatelate² his pryson vj. condempned personnes, the receiver off Mans (a grette man and worthe above XL^m crownes³), a Counsailours sonne of Roan, and iiij. other, whiche were burned, thre at the halys,⁴ 10 and thre at the crosse tyrewaye.⁵ And with this Receiver was burned thre grette sackes of bookes of heresy which were founde in his house. This ye may boldely affyrme for itt is nothinge butt truthe, with mucche more whiche for lacke of leasur I have omytted. 15

Moreover, after dyner, whiche was in the busshoppe of parrys house, the kyng declared in an Oracion to his nobles and counsailoures his faithfull mynde towardes god, Rehersynge his benefites, and the long contynuanee of his roialme in the true faithe of 20 christe, Mentyonynge also that as his predecessoures were, nott without good cause, called mooste christian prynces, soo he trusted to ymploye his endeavour that his⁶ name shall not decaye or be loste by hym, Exhortynge and requyrynge them all, bothe spirituall 25 and temporall, euery man for his parte to doo the same, Addynge furdre that if he founde any to halte in this poynte he shulde suffre extreme iustice, alleginge this texte⁷

Si oculus tuus scandalizat te, erue et projice eum abs te. 30

Sithe oon woman was brent, and dyuerse other remayne in pryson, some condempned, some like to be shortely. And this present day are bannyshed the Realme off ffrance above Lx

* If. 259 bk.

¹ ? On his way to Notre-Dame, or on his return from it?

² le Petit-Châtelet.

³ = 40,000.

⁴ les Halles, the market-place of

Paris.

⁵ Croix de Trahoir.

⁶ Read 'this'.

⁷ S. Matt. v. 29: if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee.

personnes whiche ar suspecte of Heresy, theer goodes all confiscated to the kynges vse.

And also I shall desiour you to pardon me, bycause I didd nott write this more fayrer, ffor the brynger was in such Impertune haste that I coude nott write itt to my purpose, etc.

and confiscations of goods continue.

Excuse untidiness of this letter: the courier, who was to take it to England, was in haste.

Appendix V: 1535, Proceedings against Ralph Clerke, of Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire, for speaking against Transubstantiation.

From bishop John Longland's Register of Memoranda, at Lincoln, lf. 267. Henry VIII's keen personal interest in the great dogmatic controversy of the age, combined with his tyrannical temper, spurred him on to extreme measures against all critics of the doctrine of Transubstantiation. All such were heretics, felons, rebels, to be dealt with without mercy or remorse. The statute against heretics, here referred to, was passed in 1534 (25 Henr. VIII, cap. 14).

The proceedings here instituted belong to the king's court. Possibly the copying of this writ into the Episcopal Register is to be explained by the contumely directed by this sartorial controversialist upon the bishop and his sermon.

[*Latin Text of Indictment, containing the English words complained of.*]

* **I**nquiratur pro domino Rege quod, cum Johannes, Lincolniensis Episcopus, apud parvam Messyndene in comitatu predicto, in ecclesia parrochiali sancti Johannis baptiste de parua messyndene predicta, xvij^o die nouembris Anno Regni Regis Henrici octavi xxvij^{mo} existens, euangelium depredicans in presentia multorum christianorum, Idemque episcopus, inter alia, predicando aperte publicauit narrauit et declarauit dictis christianis ibidem existentibus quod¹ sacramentum altaris verum corpus et sanguis domini nostri Jhesu christi est et erat;

Et ulterius predictus episcopus, in fine predicationis sue predictae, dicebat eisdem christianis hec verba sequentia—
20 Rogo vos omnes orare pro me et ego orabo pro vobis;

* lf. 267.

¹ 'The sacrament of the altar (i. e. the bread and wine after the

acts of consecration) is the true body and blood of Christ.'

1535. Inquiry is to be made by the king's officers into the case of Ralph Clerke. It is said that, after hearing a sermon by the Bishop of Lincoln, John Longland, on 18 Nov. 1535, preached at Little Missenden, Buckinghamshire, in which Transubstantiation was affirmed, and after which the Bishop asked the people to pray for him,

Ralph Clerke,
tailor, of
Princes Ris-
borough,
Buckingham-
shire,

presently,
speaking to
John Daw-
beney,

mocked at the
bishop's re-
quest for the
prayers of the
people, and
declared his
doctrine to be
utterly false,

thereby de-
fending
heresy, setting
a most evil
example to the
king's subjects,
and inciting to
lawlessness
and sedition.

si Radulphus Clerke, nuper de Risboroghe principis in comitatu Buckinghamie, taylour, alias dictus Radulphus Tailour nuper de Risborough principis in comitatu Buck., Tailour, apud paruam messyndene predictam in comitatu predicto, in predicta ecclesia de parua Messendene, dictis die et anno, adtunc 5 et ibidem existens, eundem sermonem et predicacionem audien- dus, vt falsus hereticus ac felo dicti domini regis, apud paruam messyndene predictam in comitatu predicto, dictis die et anno, heretice ac felonice, publice et pertinaciter publicauit monstrauit et dixit cuidam Johanni Daubeney hec verba sequentia in 10 anglicis verbis—

The dewell pray for hym, ffor I will nott. Here¹, Dawbeney, what a cloke² he maketh. He saithe that the sac[r]ament of the altuar is the fleshe and bloode of god, and itt is not soo. Itt is butt wyne. Nowe thou mayste here what a crafty knave 15 he is. Looke here, Dawbeney, vpone my booke, and I shall shewe the veraye truthe thereof—

contra fidem catholicam ac in christianorum fidei detrimentum, necnon in exemplum perniciosissimum christianorum et ligeorum domini Regis, ac contra formam diuersorum statutorum nuper 20 editorum et prouisorum, necnon contra pacem domini Regis nunc.

Additional Note.

To Canon Foster's continued kindness, are due the knowledge of, and transcription of, eight additional documents of value, which add much to the present volume. I have here brought in these, with reference numbers following on the previous five additional documents, but in their own sequence of dates.

They are :

VI : 7 Nov., 1485, English text of an Act of Parliament by which Bishops were empowered to imprison criminous clerics.

VII : 9 March, 1485⁵, contract for the rebuilding of the bridge at Newark-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire.

VIII : 4 February, 1487⁷, Latin will of John Goodwin, of Wooburn, Buckinghamshire, with English codicil, 16 March, 1487⁷.

IX : 26 Nov., 1499, reluctant acceptance by the Abbot of

¹ Hear.

² Clack, senseless clatter of words.

Peterborough of a Commission from the Bishop of Lincoln requiring the Abbot to convey criminous clerics from Peterborough prison to one or other of the prisons of the Bishop.

X: 25 March, 1517, will of Robert Hardy of Lyddington, Rutlandshire.

XI: 20 August, 1517, will of John Symmys, of Ridlington, Rutlandshire.

XII: 4 March, 1517^g, lease of grazing and other rights in the Bishop of Lincoln's manor at Stow, Lincolnshire.

XIII: 30 September, 1518, will of Richard Hawardyn, of Sherington, Buckinghamshire.

Appendix VI: 1485, Statute empowering Bishops to commit criminous clerics to prison, and to keep them in prison for terms proportionate to their guilt.

From bishop John Russell's Register at Lincoln, lf. 77.

[I. *Latin Preface, and Title of Extract.*]

* In parlamento excellentissimi principis Henrici dei gracia 7 Nov. 1485
Regis Anglie et francie & domini Hibernie [septimi] tento (1 Henr. VII),
apud Westmonasterium vij^o die Nouembris Anno regni sui
primo, inter alia editum et statutum fuit sub forma que
5 sequitur.

**Actum parlamenti pro incarceratione clericorum
incontinentium.**

[II. *English Text of Statute.*]

Item, for the more sure and likly reformation of prestes to punish
Clerkes and Religiousse men culpable or bi ther demerites openly clerics guilty
noysed of incontinuent lyuyng in their bodies contrarie to ther of evil living,
Ordre, It is enacted ordeyned and stablished bi thaduyse and it is enacted
10 assent of the lordes spirituall and temporell and comens in the by Parliament,
said parliament assembled, and bi auctorite of the same, that it that Bishops,
be lafull to all Archebishops & bishoppes and other ordinaries and Church
Haueng episcopall iurisdictione to punysh and chastice suche Dignitaries
with Episcopal
jurisdiction,
shall have full
powers to com-
mit them to

* lf. 77.

prison, for
terms propor-
tionate to their
guilt.

prestes clerkes and Religiose men beyng within the boundes of their iurisdiccion as shalbe conuicte before them, bi examinacion & other lafull prefe requisite bi the lawe of the Church, of Aduoutre fornicacion incest or any other fleshly incontynence, by commytteng them to ward and prison, ther to abide for 5 suche tyme as shalbe thought bi their discrecions conuenient for the qualite and quantite of their trespasses. And that none of the said Archebisshoppes bisshopes and other ordinaries aforesaid be thirfor chargeable of to or vpon any accion of false or wrongfull imprisonment butt that thei be vtterly therof 10 discharged in any of the cases aforesaid bi virtue of this Acte.

Appendix VII: 9 March, 148⁵/₆, Contract for the re-building of the bridge at the Castle of Newark-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire, destroyed by flood.

From bishop John Russell's Register at Lincoln, lf. 77, 77 bk., 78.

*** Newerke: indentura pro reedificacione pontis.**

9 March,
1485/6
(1 Henry VII),
Newark bridge
being des-
troyed by
flood, the in-
habitants ap-
pealed for help
to the Bishop
of Lincoln,
Lord of the
Manor of
Newark.

This indenture tripartite, made the [blank] day of marche the furst yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the vijth, berith witnessse that wherupon the faileng of the brigge of the town of Newark fast bi the Castell ther in the Countie of Notyngham 15 nowe late happened bi gret rage [of] water flodes, and soe John Philipot, now Alderman, other wise called John philipot draper, John Calcrofte, Andrewe Kelome, † William Camme, and William Dawes, in the name of them self and of all other inhabitauntes of the said towne of Newerk, the ixth day of this 20 presente moneth of Marche, within the close of Lincoln, cam and resorted vnto the Reuerend fadre in god John bisshop of Lincoln lord of the said toune of Newerk in the right of his church of Lincoln, sheweng bi bill of supplicacion the case that was fallen toucheng the same brigge and what losse and decaye myte fall 25 of all lyklynesse to the inhabitauntes ther if the said brigge were not sone and spedili set vp ageyne. After moche communicacion therupon had, it was aduysed spoken and thought for the best couduyt of this matier that vpon a certayne somme of mony to be graunted bi the said Reuerend fadre, wherunto 30

The Bishop
gave

* lf. 77.

† lf. 77 bk.

- he of his speciall grace and bi wey of Almes and charite was right wele willed and graunted C. marc' to be perceyued of the reuenues of His lordship of Newerk with the membres, the same C. marc' to be paid to the said John philipot, John Calcrofte, out of his revenues in Newark, to be paid in three instalments,
- 5 Andrewe Kelome, William Camme, and William dawes, at iij. termes, that is to say, xx li. parcell of the said C. marc' within xiiij. daies next after the fest of Ester next comyng, and other xx li at the fest of the Natiuite of saynt John baptist than next ensueng, and xxvj li. xiijs. iij d. in full payment of the said C.
- 10 marc' bi the fest of Michelmas next to come or within xv daies next after; the said Alderman and inhabitauntes shuld take vpon them the ouersight charge and the maner of setting vp of the said brigge and to make couenaunt with a sufficient Carpenter and other werkmen requisite in this behalue for the full on condition that the community of Newark should build a new bridge.
- 15 accomplishment therof. Wherupon it hathbe agreed graunted couenaunted accorded and bargayned bi twen the said Alderman and his brethren of the one side and one Edward downes Carpenter of the parroch of Wyrksop in the Comitie of Notyngnam of the other side for the making of the said brigge Edward Downes, of Worksop, Nottinghamshire, undertook the work.
- 20 in maner and fourme as foloweth. The said Edward Downes hath bargayned accorded and covenauanted with the said Alderman and inhabitauntes of Newerk aforsaid, and they with hym, that the same Edward bi the grace of god hath taken vpon hym and graunteth to make, at his owne custes and expenses, of newe
- 25 tymbre of good and sufficient oke, a brigge of the west side of the Castell of Newerk of xij. Arches, euery sele tre vnder the water wherupon euery post shall stonde to be of square di.¹ a yerd or more and in lenght according to the werke, euery post in brede xiiij. ynche and in thyknes xij. ynche and in height Bridge to be of oak, with twelve arches, of stout timbers, and sufficient planks,
- 30 according to the olde brigge, euery somer tre vpon the postes heedes in brede di. a yerd and in length a fote longer than the brede of the old brigge. Also euery giste tre of square xij. ynche and more, and euery plauncher of thiknes iiij. ynche with the bandes accordyng to the same tymber. Also the said
- 35 Edward shal make of newe tymber, ouer the said Arches, railes vpon both sides of the brigge with the postes of ij. yerdes of length for the kepyng of the bordres of the said brigge, with a crosse of tymbre to be sot in the myddes of the said brigge. And with posts and rails on both sides,

¹ di. = dimidium = half.

and piers
strongly pro-
tected.

Bridge to be
finished before
29 September,
1486.

Contractor to
receive the
sum of £40.

The commu-
nity of Newark
is to pay for
carriage of the
timber, and to
provide stone,
and all inci-
dental
charges.

Two strong
stone forts are
to be built to
secure the ap-
proach from
the west and
east, at the
charges of the
community of
Newark, before
30 November,
1486.

Mutual bonds
of £68 13s. 4d.
for perform-
ance of the
above cove-
nants,

euery Arche to haue a fense tre a fore it as large as may be
caried *with* any reasonable cariage. For the making of whiche
brigge the said Edward shall fynde almaner of coste of tymber
and werkmanship at his owne custes and expenses sufficiently to
be made rered and set vp of this side the fest of saynt Michell 5
the Archaungell next comyng. For the whiche said werkman-
ship and tymbre bi the said Edward in fourme abouesaid to be
made and finished, the said Edward shall receyue xlii. parcell
of the said C. marc' bi the handes of the said Alderman and other
inhabitauntes of Newerk aforesaid. And as toucheng the residue 10
of the same C. marc' and the finisheng of the hool werk of the
said brigge, the said Alderman and his brethern haue taken
vpon them and couenaunted *with* the said Reuerend fadre that
thei, of their propre goodes, to gedre *with* the said residue, shall
purvey and make to be had cariage of all the said tymbre, and 15
also all the costes of stone to be digged and gotten vpon the
ground of the said Reuerend fadre necessarie and to be caried
to the said brigge, *with* all maner of other cariages custis and
charges whiche shalbe done about the brigge as in cariage of
clay lyme and sand grauell and pauyng vpon the said brigge, 20
and al maner of other charges to be done to the same brigge in
any maner wise necessarie, except that longeth to the Carpenter
aforesaid. And also, at the west ende of the said brigge, a
myghty stonewerke for the defence and saufgard of the same
brigge, *with* ij. displaies goyng out of the same stonewerk,* of 25
either side one, for that partie. And in like wise at the Est
ende of the same brigge another myghty stonewerk, *with* ij.
displaies, as is a foresaid. All the premisses, other than suche
as the said Edward hath taken vpon hym to make in fourme
aforesaid, to be done at the custes and expenses of the said 30
Alderman brethren and inhabitauntes afore and bi the fest of
saynt Andrewe thapostell next comyng in wynter. For all the
whiche seuerall grauntes and couenauntes surely to be per-
fourmed bi the parties aforesaid for that that to eueriche of
them seuerally belongeth, the said Reuerend fadre byndeth 35
hym self to the said John Philipot, John Calcrofte, Andrewe
Kelome, William Camme, and William Dawes in C. marc'.
And the said John philipot, John Calcrofte, Andrewe Kelome,

* If. 78.

William Camme, and John Dawes, bynde them self to the said Reuerend fadre in C li. and also to the said Edward in C. marc'. And the same Edward also byndeth hym self for his partie to the same Reuerend fadre, John philipot, John Calcrofte, 5 Andrewe Kelome, William Camme, and William Dawes, in C. marc', the same somme, bi whom so euer of the said parties it be forfeited for none *perfourmyng* of that that to hym *aperteyneth* bi reason of this indenture, to be due and paiaible the furst day of decembre next to come like as in iiij. seuerall obligacions to be forfeited on 1 December, 1486, if the work be not then executed.

10 bering the date of thies *presente* indentures it may appere. In witnes wherof, aswele the said Reuerend fadre, as the saide Edward, John philipot Alderman and other iiij. of his brethern whiche be bounde in ij. of the said obligacions, haue to eche partie of thies *tripartite* indentures put their seales. At 15 Lincoln the day and yere aboue rehersed.

Appendix VIII: Latin Will, 148 $\frac{7}{8}$, with English codicil, of John Goodwin, of Wooburn, Buckinghamshire.

From bishop John Russell's Register at Lincoln, lf. 87 and 87 bk.

[I. *Latin Text of Will.*]

* In dei nomine Amen. Quarto die mensis Februarij Anno 4 February, 1487/8.
 I domini millesimo CCC.lxxxvij^{mo} Ego Johannes Goodwyne de parochia sancti pauli de Woborne in Comitatu Buckingham' Lincolniensis diocesis compos mentis et sane existens memorie, 20 condo testamentum meum in hunc modum.

Inprimis lego animam meam deo omnipotenti beate virgini Marie & omnibus sanctis Corpusque meum sepeliendum in Ecclesia parochiali de Woborne predicta. Burial in Wooburn church.

Item lego Cathedrali Ecclesie beate marie Lincolniensis iiij*d*. 25 Item lego summo Altari Ecclesie de Woborne predicta viij*d*. Item lego lumini sancte Crucis in eadem Ecclesia xij*d*. Item lego lumini sancte marie ibidem v*d*. Item lego luminibus sanctorum Nicholai & Katerine in eadem viij*d*. Requests to Wooburn church, and to the lights in it.

Item lego vicario eiusdem Ecclesie v*s*. viij*d*. Item lego vicario 30 de Burnham i*s*. iiij*d*. Item lego Rectori Ecclesie de Taplowe i*s*. iiij*d*. Item lego Rectori Ecclesie de Hicham¹ x*d*. Item

* lf. 87.

¹ Probably Wycombe.

Bequests to
Wooburn
church belfry
and bells.
Bequests to
relatives and
friends;

to god-
children;
and to others.

Allocation of
furniture, be-
tween widow
and interces-
sory alms.

Provision for
intercessory
services for
two full years.

Other personal
bequests.

Appointment
of Executors,

and of Over-
seer, of the
will.

Directions to
remove any

lego fabrice noui campanilis Ecclesie de Woborne predicta Cs.

Item lego reparacioni vnus Campanie in Ecclesia predicta xxs.

Item lego Johanni filio meo principalia implementa domus mee que habui antequam maritatus fui petronille vxori mee.

Item lego Henrico Egham vnam vaccam & vnum vitulum. Item lego Johanni Bavegne ij. boues & vnum pullum que emi apud Tame in festo sancti Michaelis ultimo preterito.

Item lego cuilibet filiolorum & filiarum meorum vnam ouem.

Item lego Thome Wyngroue vnam iuencam. Item lego Richardo Couper vnam vaccam. Item volo quod Willielmus 10 Egham qui solebat soluere michi pro tenura sua annuatim vijs. quod deinceps soluat annuatim pro termino vite sue pro tenura sua predicta tantum ijs. iiij^d. Item lego Willielmo Rauenyng vnam vaccam. Item lego Isabelle Collis vnam iuencam. Item lego matilde Rauenyng vnam vaccam. Item lego Anne 15 perys vnum bouiculum. Item lego Johanne Buttirfeld xxs. Item lego Helene Barclot vnam vaccam.

Item volo quod implementa fruitorii¹ mei apud Westwicombe per executores meos equaliter diuidantur quorum vnam medietatem lego petronille vxori mee & aliam eorundem medietatem 20 volo pro salute anime mee per executores meos disponendam.

Item volo quod de bonis meis exhibeatur idoneus & secularis Capellanus celebraturus pro salute anime mee ac animarum parentum & omnium amicorum meorum per duos annos integros.

25

Item lego cuilibet Elizabethhe Edithe & Margarete filiarum Walteri Fermyscham vnum bouiculum.

Residuum vero omnium bonorum meorum superius non legatorum do et lego vere disposicioni petronille vxoris mee,* Magistri Thome Birchold Rectoris Ecclesie parochialis de 30 Merlowe magna, Thome Garston de Bekynsfeld, & Johannis Catour de Woborne predicta, quos facio ordino & constituo huius testamenti mei executores, vt ipsi inde disponant pro salute anime mee prout eis melius videbitur deo placere & anime mee prodesse. Presentis eciam testamenti mei Superuisorem 35 constituo Thomam Restwold, Armigerum.

Et volo quod si eciam petronilla uxor mea, aut aliquis executorum meorum prenominatorum, huic presenti testamento

* If. 87 bk.

¹ So written: but what does it mean?

meo in aliquo contradixerit, siue meam vltimam voluntatem unfaithful
implere contempserit, quod tunc illius seu illorum sic contra- Executor.
dicentium potestas in execucione huius testamenti mei siue
vltime voluntatis cassetur et pro nullo habeatur.

- 5 Item lego cuilibet Executorum meorum predictorum viginti Requests to
solidos. Item lego Thome Restwold superuisori predicto pro Executors and
eius labore Cs. Overseer of
the will.

[II. *English Text of Codicil.*]

This is the last will of me John Goodwyn of Woborn in the 16 March,
Countie of Buck' made the xvj. day of Marche the yere of our 1487/8.
10 Lord m^l.cccc. lxxxvij.

First, I will that all my londes and tenementes with their Entail of testa-
appurtenaunces in the Counties of Buck' and Berk' after my tor's landed
decesse be graunted bi my feoffes to John my son and to his estate on his
heires for euermore, if he lyve to the age of xxj. yeres, or if it son John,
15 be thought bi my seid feoffes and executors and suche Counsell
as thei shall call vnto them that he be of suche discrecion to rule
the said Landes within the said yeres, prouided that my Landes
at Yakynden in Berk' be sold by my feoffez & myne Executoures
& asmoche land purchased therwith as shalbe worth yerely xiijs. with contin-
20 iiijd. And if my said sone decesse or he come to his land I will tent legacies
that the Right Heyres of my ij. Sisteres haue eueriche of them to testator's
xls. of money. Also I will that if my sone decesse a fore Lawfull sisters' children, and
age without heires of his body lawfully begotten that ther be contingent
a Chauntry founded for a preste to synge in Woborn Church. foundation of
25 for euermore bi thadyse of Thomas Restwold and my said a chantry in
Executors to pray for me John Goodwyn my fader my moder Wooburn
my wife & my trusti friend Thomas Restwold whom I make church.
patrone of my said Chauntre. And after the decesse of hym he
to graunte the said patronage to them whiche he thinketh beste
30 for the wele of our soules for euermore.

Also I wull that ther be yerely bi thavice of Thomas Provision of
Restwold & myne Executors an obite kept in Woborn Chirche an obit for
of xs. out of my said landes if my sone leve to lawful age. ever.

Also I will that petronille my wife haue and possesse for the Testator's
35 terme of hir life my house with the Chymeny set in Woborn widow life-
betwixt the maner of the bishop of Lincoln and the parish rented in his
Chirche of Woborn aforsaid. And the reuersion of the same, dwelling-
house in Woo-
burn, with

reversion to
his son John.

after the decesse of the said petronille, I will John my sone
hauue as *parcell* of my said londes & *tenementes* to hym before
assigned in maner and fourme before rehersed.

Provision for
expenses in-
curred in ad-
ministration,
and for dis-
posal of residue
of testator's
estate.

Also I will that my said *executors* make sale of asmoche of
my wodes as shalbe nedefull to the fulfilling of my testament & 5
will. Also I will that the Residue of my landes and goodes, my
wife hauing hir duetie, my sone kept and manerly drawe ¹ *dureng*
his nowne age, be kept and emploied by myne *Executors* and
thaduyse of Thomas Restwold to the most profite of my said
sone.

10

[III. *Latin Text of Probate.*]

John Russell,
bishop of Lin-
coln, at Woo-
burn Manor-
house, 27 April,
1488,

Tenore presencium nouerint vniuersi quod nos Johannes per-
missione diuina Lincolniensis Episcopus testamentum Johannis
Goodwyne nuper de Woborne episcopi ² nostre diocesis vna cum
ultima voluntate eiusdem Johannis presentibus annexa coram
nobis in Manerio nostro de Woborne xxvij^o die Aprilis Anno 15
domini millesimo CCCC.lxxxvij^o per executores in eodem
testamento nominatos realiter exhibitum & legitime probatum
abprobauimus & insinuauimus ac pro veris & legitimis testa-
mento & ultima voluntate pronunciauimus & declarauimus prout
tenore presencium sic approbamus insinuamus pronunciamus & 20
declaramus Administracionemque omnium & singulorum bono-
rum dictum defunctum & suum huiusmodi testamentum con-
cernentium vbicunque infra nostram iurisdiccione[m] existencium
petronille vxori dicti Johannis ac Thome Garston & Johanni
Catour executoribus in dicto testamento nominatis in forma 25
iuris iuratis commisimus et committimus per presentes Computum
calculum & raciociinium administracionis huiusmodi necnon
potestatem committendi administracionem magistro Thome
Birchold alteri executori eciam in ipso testamento nominato
cum venerit eam in debita iuris forma suscepturo nobis specialiter 30
reseruantes. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum ad
causas presentibus est appensum. datum die loco & Anno domini
supradictis. Et nostre translacionis Anno Octauo.

granted pro-
bate of this
will,

requiring the
Executors to
submit their
accounts to
him.

¹ drawe? = drawn, and meaning 'brought up'.

² Wooburn Episcopi = Bishop's Wooburn. Many villages and farms
are still so called from having been anciently the property of some see.

Appendix IX : 1500, Commission issued by William Smith, bishop of Lincoln, directing the Abbot of Peterborough (however indignant at receiving this charge) to convey criminous clerics from Peterborough to Banbury or Newark-on-Trent.

From bishop William Smith's Register at Lincoln, lf. 87 and 87 bk.

The proceedings were, probably, in pursuance of the 1485 Statute (*supra*, p. 255). The Bishop's Vicar-general, 26 Nov., 1499, wrote to the Abbot, announcing the Bishop's intention to lay this duty upon him. In spite of the Abbot's openly expressed indignation at being called upon to discharge such an unworthy service, the Commission was issued about a month later, viz. on 5 January, 1499.

[I. *Abbreviated English version of the Official Record of the issue of the Commission.*]

* Commission to receive convicted clerics within the Liberty of Peterborough.

The bishop issued a commission to Robert, Abbot of the Benedictine Monastery, Peterborough, empowering him, personally or by deputy, to demand and receive any clerks arrested and indicted on any criminal charge, and committed to gaol within the Liberty of Peterborough, in order to have them dealt with in the Bishop's ecclesiastical court, and to send them to the bishop's castles of Banbury or Newerke, with copies of their indictments. Dated at the bishop's manor of Lyddington, Rutlandshire, 8 January, 1500,¹ and in the fifth year of his translation.

The aforesaid commission had been reluctantly submitted to by the Abbot of Peterborough, as appears by the following letter sent by him to the Bishop's vicar-general in spirituals.

[II. *Text of the Abbot of Peterborough's Protest.*]

† Worshipfull Maister, aftyr dewe recommendacion to you Robert, Abbot of Peterborough, asked by William Smith, Bishop of Lincoln, to
 premysed, so it is I lately receyved your letteres beryng this date the xxvj. day of Nouembre²; and by them I vnderstond my lordis pleasure is that ye shuld make a commission to me and

* lf. 87.

† lf. 87 bk.

¹ i. e. 1499 in the English accompt.

² i. e. in the year 1499.

convey crimin- to suche other of my brethren as I will name to receyve clerkes
ous clerics
from his juris- convicte if nede be at theis oure next sessions. Maister, it hath
diction to the not ben sene or hard such a commission to be made to my pre-
Bishop's court, expresses dis- decessoures or to any of my brethren here afore.
like of the
task, but con- Nerthelesse doying my lord a pleasure, if it will please yow to 5
sents, on being entyr in your said commission that I shalbe alowed for my
certified that costes and charges for the conveyance of them, and a place
his charges assigned where thei shall rest, I will accepte and gladly receive
will be paid. your commission, prayng you, maister Chaunceler, interely and
with all my hert to be a meane for me to my good lorde that 10
this said matier with all other of variaunce may sease and be
vayd as they haue bene here afore, gevyng credens to the brynger
hereof, and I will deserue it to yow by goddes grace who you
preserue &c.

Subscriptio: your Lover to his power, Robert, Abbot of the 15
monasterie of Petyrburgh.

Appendix X: 25 March, 1517, Will of Robert Hardy, of Lyddington, Rutlandshire.

From bishop William Atwater's Register at Lincoln, lf. 93 and lf. 93 bk.

* Testamentum Roberti Hardy de Lidington.

25 March,
1517.

In the name of god Amen, the xxv. day of marche in the yere
of our lorde gode m^l.cccc.xvij., I robert hardy of lyddington
within Ruttlond of hole Mynde & good remembrance make my
testament & last will in this maner foloweng: 20

Burial in
Lyddington
church.

ffirst, I bequeth my soule to almyghty god to our blissed lady
& to all seyntes & my body to be buryed in the churche of
alhallowis in lyddington afor the Image of our blessed lady of
pietye.¹

Bequests to
Lyddington
church.

Item, I bequeth to the hy alter xxd. Item, I bequeth to our 25
lady of lincoln xxd. Item, I bequeth to the torche light iijs. iiijd.
Item, to the belles iijs. iiijd.

Bequests to
Testator's
sons.

Item I bequeth to sir William my sone on fedder bed with
all that longeth yerto, on furr off ffloxe, on other of ffychoes.
Item, I bequeth to James my son my place that I dwell in with 30
the land longeng to ye same place & bowthis howse with the

* lf. 93.

¹ i. e. 'of pity'.

yarde londe belongeng yerto. Item, I bequeth to Robert my sone florethers hous *with* the yarde londe. Item, I bequeth to John my son Harresons howse *with* y^e yarde londe.

Also I will that Johan my wiff haue the profittes & the rule
 5 of the howses & londes the terme of hire liff & if any of my Children be obstinate & trouble with there mother contrary to my will hee yat so trobles to haue no thyng but at his motheres will.

Life-rent grant to Testator's widow, with power of stewardship over the estate.

Item, I will that the hows agaynes my lordes bakhowse next the hall of stache¹ be putt & go *with* harysons yarde lond.

10 Item, I bequeth to Elizabeth my seruau^t ijs. Item, I bequeth to Nicholas stowe my ryding gowne. Item, I bequeth to Robert hill a Jaket of Totyn russett lynyd *with* blake. Item, I bequeth to Robert Cley a kendall Jaket. Item, I bequeth to John Drouer my seruau^t xijd.

Bequests to servants.

15 Item, I will haue on secular prest to syng in the church of lidington at our ladyes awter for me & my wiffes my frendes & all Cristen soules bi the space of on hole yere.

Intercessory services provided for a year.

Item, I will and giue to the church of lidington the hows
 Called hallofstagh in to the hondes of the church wardens, payng
 20 the fyne to the lorde aftyr Custom & maner of the lordshipe, to this entent that they yerely kepte for me a solennitie obbet for my soule my fader & moder my wiffes *with* all my frendes *ssowles that day which it shall please god to sende fore me & they to distribute at the said yere day ijs. iiijd. to prestes clerkes
 25 & other powre pepull. & iff it be so that the said wardence, with the consent of the parishe, will sele the said house or changh it for arabull londes or medow, it is my will to give them lycens so to do, they keping yerely the said obett in the said church, [and] distributyng the money afor rehersed.

Endowment of a permanent obit,

and provision for expenditure at it.

Power to vary the investment of the endowment.

30 Item, I will my children haue iche oon of them on ffedder bed *with* that longeth yerto, aftyr the discrecion of my wiff, & on ther good aberyng.

Bequests of bedding.

Item, I will that all my harnes be sold to bi westmentes *with*.
 The residue of my goodes not bequethed I give to the disposicion
 35 of my wiff, whom I make sole executrix to dispose for me as is most expedient for y^e helth of my soule.

Bequest for vestments. Appointment of Executrix.

thies witnes, m^r. Roberd purdy, vicare of lidington; henry medlton pariche preste at calcott.

* lf. 93 bk.

¹ See *infra*, l. 19.

[II. *Latin Text of Probate, 30 July, 1517.*]

Approbacio eiusdem.

Probatum fuit presens testamentum suprascriptum coram officiali Magistri Jacobi Denton prebendarij de lidington penultimo die mensis Julij Anno domini millesimo quingentesimo xvij^{mo} in ecclesia prebendali de lidington predicta. Commissa fuit administracio bonorum relicte sue executrici supranominate ; in forma Juris Jurate saluo Jure cuiuscumque, etc.

Appendix XI: 20 August, 1517, Will of John Symmys, of Ridlington, Rutlandshire.

From bishop William Atwater's Register at Lincoln, lf. 92 bk. and lf. 93.

[I. *Full Text of the Will.*]* **Testamentum Johannis Symmys de Ridlington.**

20 August,
1517.

In the name of gode amen, the xx^{ti} day of august the yere of
Our lorde gode a^m.cccc.xvij, I, John Symmes of Ridlington
beyng of good mynde and memory, make and ordeyn my laste
will and testament in maner & forme foloweng. 10

Burial in Rid-
lington
church.

Disposal of
goods.

ffirst, I bequeth my soule to almyghty god and my body to be
buried in the church of Ridlington before the aulter of Seynt
Nycolas.

Item, I will that my dettes shalbe payd of my holle goodes,
And, aftyr my dettes so payd, I will the remaunant of my goodes 15
be deuyded into three egall partes; wheroff I will that marget
my wiff haue oon parte, the seconde parte to be egally deuyded
amongest my Children, And the threde parte to be bestowed
for the welth of my soule, the soules of my feyther and mother
and all Cristen soules, And for the fferther perfomance [*sic*] of 20
this my last will after the discretion of myne executores.

Bequest to
Ridlington
church.

Item, I bequeth to my Mother church off lincoln xij^d.

Item, to the hye aulter of Ridlington ijjs. iiij^d.

Item, to Clement Tyler oon of my Cotes; Item, to my
doughter Agnes xls. 25

Bequests to
Friars at
Stamford.

Item, to the church of Ridlington xs.

Item, to the white freres at Stamford xs. and to euery other
of the ij. orders ijjs. iiij^d.

Item, I will that marget my wiff haue the hows wherin
 I nowe dwelle duryng the tyme that she lyveth sole and
 vnmaryed, keping all maner reparacions belongeng to the same;
 And aftyr she is maryed or take on husbond, I will that my
 5 soone Robert Symmes haue the said hows as his enherytaunce to
 hym & his heires for euer, he and his heires payng yerly to my
 said wiff iiij markes duryng hyr live.

Bequest, during widowhood, to testator's widow, with reversion to testator's son Robert.

Item, I will that the profittes of my Millne at vppyngham
 remayn to my thre Sonnes John Thomas & Charles duryng
 10 theyre three lyves, except any of them be made prest; And if
 eny of them be made prest, the said profittes to remayn to hym
 or them note made prestes.

Mill at Uppyngham.

Objection to priests inheriting estate.

And that the said Children which be willing to go to scole, to
 thentent to be made prestes, haue the hole profittes of the said
 15 Milne and not the other. And aftyr the be made prestes, and
 aftyr the deceasse of them note made prestes, the said Milne
 and profittes to remayn to my sone Robert and his heyres for
 euer.

Provision for education of sons, in view of priesthood.

Item,* I will that my Sister Agnes lacy haue a noble duryng
 20 here lyve out off the hows wherin she nowe dwellith, according
 to my fatheres will, and that my wiff haue the residue off my
 profittes of the said hows duryng hire live.

Bequests to testator's sister and widow.

And I make & ordeyn Robert Symmes my soon & Thomas
 Sherman myn executores of this my last will and testament,
 25 And William Symmes off okeham ouersear of the same.

Executors named, and Overseer, of the will.*

Thies beyng witnes, xp'ofer lacy, John wright, John Swayn-
 son, Thomas tayllour, henry preston, Clement Tiler, and other.

[II. *Latin Record of Probate, at Lyddington Manor,*
31 August, 1517.]

Approbacio eiusdem.

Probatum fuit presens testamentum coram Ricardo Roston,
 decretorum doctore, domini Willielmi episcopi lincolniensis
 30 Cancellario, in Capella infra manerium de lidington, vltimo die
 mensis Augustj Anno domini millesimo quingentesimo xvij^{mo}.
 Commissa administracio bonorum et debitorum eiusdem defuncti
 executoribus suprascriptis.

* lf. 98.

Appendix XII: 4 March, 151⁷/₈, lease for forty years, by William Atwater, bishop of Lincoln, of the grazing rights in the park, and of the demesne meadows, pasture, fishings, and market-dues belonging to Stow manor, Lincolnshire, an estate of the See of Lincoln.

From bishop William Atwater's Register at Lincoln, lf. 83 and 83 bk.

* Stow park' herbagii dimissio ad firmam.

4 March,
1517/8,

Thomas Smyth, of Sleaford, Lincolnshire, takes on lease the grazing rights of Stow Park, and also the demesne meadows, pasture, fishing, market-dues, of Stow manor, for forty years, at yearly rent of £11 5s. 4d., but reserving royalties, and timber.

Thys Indentur made the iiijth daie off Marche the ixth yere off the reign off kyng henry the viijth bitwene the Reuerend ffadre in god William by the grace off god bishop off lincoln off the oon partie, And Thomas Smyth, hys balyff, of Sleford in the countie off lincoln, off thoyer partie, wittenessyth

5

that the same Reuerend ffadre bishop off lincoln hath graunted dimysed and letten to ferme to the said Thomas Smyth the harbage pannage and agistament off Stowe park within the said countie off lincoln,

and also certayn demeane medowes within the lordship off 10 Stow, that is to saie, the medowes in yolthorp in magelmor conteynyng x. Acres and di', some tyme in thold¹ off Thomas Somerset and John Stowe; oon Acre off medowe in Brampton, late in the hold off John Askyll; And xlvij. Acres and di' off medowe nyght² the fosse, wheroff lyeth in newton xvij. Acres di', 15 in laughterton v. Acres, in ffenton xv. Acres, and next the fosse x. Acres.

And also a pasture called Brampton Clyff,
with the ffishyng off the Seuerall water off Trent,
and the tolle off the ffeyres off Stowe.

20

To haue and to hold the forsaid harbage pannage and agistament off Stowe park and all the demaign medowes abovesaid with the pasture called Brampton clyff and the ffishyng and the tolle aforesaid to the said Thomas Smyth and his assigneys ffrom the ffest off Sancte Michael the Archaungell next commyng 25 after the date of thies presentes vnto thend and terme off flourty yeres then next folowyng and fully to be complete,

yeldyng and payng yerfor yerely to the said Reuerend ffadre bishop off lincoln and to his successours xj^{li}. vs. iiij^d. at twoo vsuall festes off the yere by euen porcions, Reserued alwaies to 30

* lf. 83.

¹ i. e. the hold (i. e. occupation).

² next.

the same Reuerend ffadre and his successoures all maner Royaltie off the same lordship off Stow or yerunto bilongyng. And the said Thomas Smyth by vertu off this leace shall not make waiste off enny wodes within his said ferme excepted
5 reparacions off hedgyng And oyer¹ menndyng.

And iff it happen the same yerely farme off xj*li*. vs. iiii*d*. to be bihynde vnpaid in parte or in all by the space off xv daies after enny off the said ffeestes at the whiche it awght to be paid, that then it shalbe lefull to the said bishop and his successours into
10 the said farme off therbage pannage and agistament off Stowe park and all the demean medowes with the pasture * called Brampton Clyff, and the ffishyng and tolle above said and euery parcell yeroff to entre and distreyn And the distresses so takyn to lede dryve cary awaye and to withhold vnto the tyme the
15 said yerely farme with tharreragies iff enny shalbe to the said bishop and to his successurs be fully content and paid.

And iff it happen the said yerely farme off xj*li*. vs. iiii*d*. to be behynd vnpaid in parte or in all by the space off a quarter off a yere after enny off the said ffeestes at the which it awght to
20 be paid that then it shalbe lefell to the said bishop and his successours into the said ferme off the harbage pannage and agistementt off Stowe park and all the demeyn medowes with the pasture called Brampton clyff & the ffishyng and tole above said and euery parcell yeroff to reentre and to haue agayn, as in
25 the first astate, thies Indentures in enny wise not withstanding.

In wittenes wheroff either off the said parties to thies Indentures entrechaungeably haue setto their seales, The daye and yere above written.

Appendix XIII: 1518, Will of Richard Hawardyn, of Sherington, Buckinghamshire.

From bishop William Atwater's Register at Lincoln, ff. 95 and 95 bk.

† Testamentum Ricardi Hawardyn.

[I. *English Text of Will.*]

In y^e name of god amen, the last day of September the yere 30 September,
30 I of our lord god M^vC and xviiij^{ten}, I Richard hawardin, sike 1518.

* ff. 83 bk.

† ff. 95.

¹ i. e. oyer.

- of body and hole in mind, make my testament & last will in manar and forme folowing.
- Burial in Sherington church. first, I bequeth my soule to almighti god and our ladi Saint Mary and all the holi compani of heuin, and my body to be buriid *withi*n y^e chancell a fore our lady. 5
- Bequests to Lincoln and Llandaff cathedrals. Item, [i] bequethe to y^e mother church of lincoln xxs. Item, i bequeth to y^e cathedrall church of landaffe vli. to bi a pix to y^e high awter.
- Bequests to bridges. Item, i bequeth to Sherington Brigg tuenti s. Item, i bequeth to newport brig vjs. viijd. Item, i bequeth to Ickford Brigg 10 vjs. viijd. Item, to olney Brigg vjs. viijd.
- Bequests to Friars for intercessory services. Item, i bequeth to euery on of y^e iiij. ordres of freers in Northaumton for a trentall xs. Item, to y^e gray freers in Bedford for a trentall xs.
- Bequest to Sherington church. Item, i bequeth to Sherington [Brigg¹] stepull *with* xxs. that 15 i haue paid all redy, iiijli.
- Schooling of a legatee. Item, i bequeth to hunfrey hawrdin to find him to the scole iiijli. vis. viijd.
- Intercessory services for two years. Item, i will yat my executores find a honest prist to sing for me and all cristend sowles a hole yere at Sherrington, and a nother 20 hole yere at Stoke.
- Executors of will named [B.N.C., Oxford]. Item, i bequeth to Agnes Heyward xxli.
- Item, i make min executours maister mathew smith, principall of the kinges college of Brasinnose in oxford, and sir Robert widows to execute this mi last will and testament, and either of 25 them to haue iiijli. vjs. viijd. for there laboures, *with* their costes. these being wittnesse: Sir Alexander Robinson, Thomas withe, William Shiriff, and Robert Triplett, *with* other mo.

[II. *Latin Record of Probate* : 9 October, 1518.]

* Probatum fuit testamentum infrascriptum coram venerabili viro Ricardo Roston apud vetus templum london' nono die 30 octobris anno domini Millesimo quingentesimo xvij^{uo}, commissaque administracio omnium bonorum executoribus in ipso testamento nominatis in forma iuris iuratis.

* If. 95 bk.

¹ Struck out.

GRAMMAR NOTES

FOR students of English, the documents contained in this volume have several points of interest.

I. They represent, authoritatively, the forms which were in use in one well-defined canton of the country. That canton is a large one, certainly, being a great diocese which stretched from Trent to Thames, but it was possessed of historical unity, having always been under one church administration, the rule of the Bishop of Lincoln. Accordingly, the various uses, in respect of spelling, inflexion, syntax, which prevail here invite comparison with similar documents of the same period which may be forthcoming from other great dioceses, south, west, and north. Such comparison may possibly yield some suggestions as the distribution of dialectical forms over different provinces in England.

II. These documents represent also what may be called natural English in distinction from artificial English. Where a writing is the result of translating a Latin text, it is bound at this period to be trammelled by the original. Here, although the documents, being in the main wills or leases, are of a legal character and therefore deeply influenced by older Law-Latin precedents, they are not actual translations, and, in spite of their formalities, are genuine English as employed in actual life. Similarly, the persons who wrote them, such as the parson who drafted a will, or the attorney who drafted a lease, were men of reasonable education, writing documents of a type they were in the habit of dealing with, and in their mother tongue. Thus, once more, in spite of technicalities, the documents are essentially natural.

III. The documents bring us very near to the originals, and are exceptionally free from mere clerical errors. The wills, leases, &c., here contained were sent into the Bishop's Registry immediately after their execution, and, at once or after very brief delay, transcribed into the Register then in process of

compilation. This transcription was no doubt done by one of the clerks of the bishop's legal adviser, and such a clerk would attempt at least professional accuracy in making the transcript and revising it when made. Similarly, the E.E.T.S. copy was taken from the Register by an experienced transcriber; and, in a multitude of doubtful places, the proofs have been rigorously collated with the Registers by the friendly and expert skill of the Rev. Canon C. W. Foster, F.S.A., Secretary and Editor of the Lincoln Record Society. Although, in this text, several forms and words appear strange, they may be taken as exactly setting forth the forms and words of the original writing.

IV. Almost all these documents have the further advantage of possessing exact statements as to the day and place of their being written, so that whatever indications they give of the specially local uses of sounds or words can be trusted to.

V. The documents, in date, fall into two distinct groups.

There is an earlier group (pp. 37-131), 1450-64, which belongs to the later period of what is conveniently called Middle English. Appendix I and Appendix II belong to this group.

Forty-five years later (pp. 131-242) begins a group, 1509-44, which belongs to the beginning of Modern English. In the Appendix (p. 255) the documents of this second group begin in 1485, the arbitrary partition year between it and Middle English.

A second inquiry is thus rendered possible. It has been already (*supra*, p. 271) suggested that an orderly statement of the linguistic facts of the earlier period may be of use when compared with similar statements from other districts.

It is further possible to compare with those of the earlier period the linguistic facts of the second period, in an attempt to find out the leading lines of change which asserted themselves in the first half-century of Modern English. There is an appreciable amount of change, but not uniformly in the way of progress. The marked increase, for example, in the use of the feeble expletive *to do* shows a less firm grip of the native verb.

VI. Special interest attaches to the comparison of the grammar features of the earlier documents here contained with those of *Godstow English Register* (E.E.T.S. 1911) and *Oseney English Register* (E.E.T.S. 1912). These two monastic translations were undoubtedly made, or in process of being made, about the

date of the writing of the concluding portion of the Lincoln Diocese first set. But the two monastic texts, in comparison with the Lincoln Diocese texts are ludicrously and, indeed, inconceivably archaic. The Lincoln Diocese texts are, in most respects, well composed, and use forms not remarkably different from those now in use. They are thus in the strongest contrast to the halting syntax and obsolete forms of the monastic texts. The contrast is that between the clearly expressed and straightforward letter of an educated man and the incoherent letter of an uneducated man who has difficulty in the mere act of writing, and still greater difficulty in setting down his thoughts in writing.

VII. The spelling is, of course, eccentric. English had not yet received any impulse towards uniformity, originating in the standardizing action of the compositors in their 'chapel'. Each writer set down for every word he wrote, in *fonetik*, and in *fonetik* which might vary from line to line, such combination of letters, chosen on the spur of the moment, as seemed best to express its sound. Something may, however, be learnt from this arbitrary spelling as to the position of the language at this period. Three points, at least, assert themselves:

(i) Plainly, in respect both of consonants and vowels, different dialectical forms of words were then co-existent, some of which have been kept on in modern English, others of which have been quite rejected by the standard speech, whether spoken or written, and, if they survive at all, survive only in dialect.

(ii) Again, the divergences of pronunciation in respect of words like *either*, *neither*, and others, which are still noticeable in the standard language as now spoken, have come down from a stage of the language in which a welter of vowels and diphthongs was one of its most striking features.

(iii) In the third place, there is abundant evidence that the blurred utterance of vowels is of long standing. There could not have been such alternatives as *moder*, *modir*, *modur*, had the final vowel been sounded truly.

In the headings which follow I have tried to bring together the main examples of these things.

Ch and k.

In general the *ch* forms have established themselves in standard English, *k* forms being now dialectical.

Church is the main instance. On the one side, we have *church* 64/12, *churche* 38/5, *chirche* 99/7; but, on the other side, *kirke* 45/7, 47/12, 54/26; *kyrk* 54/7, *kyrke* 57/13, *kirk* 120/2. *Church* continues; there is no example of *kirk* later than 1465, 121/10.

Chest is a second example. The *ch* form prevails, *chist* 40/25, 41/28, 122/1, 124/17; but *kyste* occurs 45/6.

Examples in which the *k* form has prevailed in standard English are:

kerchifs 56/32; *cherchiffes* 57/1.

kechyn 40/9, 49/12; *kichyn* 56/28; but *checkyn* 40 note.

Ch and dj.

There are examples of the thinner sound in certain words, In the later period the thicker sound is emphasized in the spelling by the actual use of *d*.

Ochecote 38/5, is now Edgecote.

charchid 55/14, but *charged* 63/5. Then, 1536, *chardgied* 208/21.

D.

In a number of instances *d* drops out, yielding a softer combination.

adyse 73/12; *ayse* 75/25; *thavice* 261/31.

expounid 57/6 = expounded.

hynes 51/27, *hynys* 55/30 = hinds, i.e. farm-labourers.

boune 134/24, bound.

On the other hand, from false analogy with real *ad*- words, *d* is inserted where it ought not to appear.

advoydyng 177/17.

advoydede 228/25 (1539).

In a few cases *d* is found introduced as a final letter where it has no real place. Such forms still abound in rustic speech in many districts.

sermondes (1536) 196/21.

D and t.

pewder 180/10, 191/29.

pewtir 40/35.

D and th.

There is an unusual number of words in which double forms occur, one set with the flat *d*, another set with the aspirated *th*. Unmistakably, in the earlier period, preference is given to the *d* forms.

Father. The forms are: fader 58/22, 97/12 and frequently; ffader 58/26, 111/2; fadir 49/31, 127/35; fadre 88/7; fadyr 49/37, 54/1.

These *d* forms are just as common in the second period. We have fadre 145/29 (1529), 220/20 (1538), ffadre 210/9 (1536).

The *th* form is not found in these deeds in the earlier period. In 1533 ffather occurs 159/20; in 1534 faper 165/15; in 1540 father 232/5; in 1517 ffeyther 266/19.

Mother. Moder 57/25, 117/14, 128/6; modyr 54/1.

And so also, in the second period, modre 145/29 (1529), 191/12 (1535), 223/1 (1538).

There is no *th* form in the earlier period; but, in the second period, mother 150/4 (1533), 159/20, and frequently afterwards, e. g. 232/5 (1540); moper 158/31 (1533), 160/8.

Brother. Forms in *d* occur both in the earlier and later periods—brodyr 51/15 (1451); brodre 153/23 (1533); 184/10 (1535); bredren 182/1 (1535). But the *th* forms are distinctly more frequent both in the earlier period—broper 58/15; brother 58/11; brothir 55/20; brothyr 53/25; and in the second period—brother 151/27; broper 159/13, 165/11; brethern, 258/12.

Feather. We have fedyrs 46/27; federbed 41/11, 62/33; in the second period, fedder bed 264/28; ffedder bed 265/30.

In the first period, fetherbed 40/13, 67/20; ffetherbed 39/16, 40/3; and, in the second period, fetherbed 155/9, 162/21, &c.

Wether. The forms in both periods are generally *d*: wedirs 42/8; wedyrs 51/8; wedres 192/12 (1535). But wethers is found 247/2 (1531).

Further. Examples, all in second period, are—ferder 133/17; furdre 133/2, 147/12, 177/17; ffurdre 218/30; fferther 266/20.

Death. Dede 53/30, 56/4; but deth 120/18; dethe 61/24, 68/17, &c.

In the earlier period, other examples are :

oder 83/30 ; odyr 50/22, 55/6 ; *but* other 82/20 ; othir 56/12.

a-nodyr 49/32 ; *but* a-nother 62/18.

toder 74/1 ; *but* tothir 48/23, 55/30.

togedyr 49/36.

gadred 127/33.

In the later period, togedre (1486) 258/14 ; radre 196/22 (1536).

hidertoo 129/18 ; furdre 252/27.

elther 80/30 : apparently = elder, i. e. formerly appointed.

Hundred. We have hunderith 66/7 (1454) ; hundrith 133/6 (1509), 173/20, 221/22 (1528), &c. ; hundreth 200/13 (1536), 207/5, &c.

hundred 151/4, 157/2.

hundrede 136/19, 222/21.

Oxford. Oxenford 72/8 ; Oxford 74/32, 117/11 ; Oxforth 189/16 ; Oxforthe 211/5.

F and v.

The variation between these two is seen in the forms of the verb *to give* (*infra*, p. 313).

Other examples are in the verb *to have*, e. g. haf 49/9 ; hafe 48/25 ; haffe 49/25, &c. ; *but* haue 48/26, and usually.

dryfys 55/30 ; *but* dryve 208/31.

leffes 67/33 ; levys 42/22 = leaves (subst.).

life 47/6, liff 73/18 ; lyff 89/37 ; *but* live 57/9, 267/7, 22 ; lyve 84/17, and (1517) 267/20, (1536) 211/7.

to liffe 221/20.

lyflod 76/31, 129/5, *but* lyvelod 76/26, 124/15.

safe 50/3 ; save 50/4 = except.

beleve 97/8 = belief.

sauf 257/24 ; savely 138/10 = safe.

leiffe 204/26 ; leve 132/27 (= leave, verb).

G and y.

Examples of the fluctuation between the harder and softer forms are found chiefly in the verb *to give* (*infra*, p. 313). But there are also—

agayn 112/17, agayns 118/25, 265/8, ayenst 130/21, ayenste 237/13 = against. Ayen 211/35 = again.

gh.

The spellings of these documents suggest that the aspirated guttural, the *ch* of Scots 'dochter', 'loch', &c., still survived in some words in Lincoln dialect, alongside of forms of the same words in which it had fallen out.

Pillow. Pillow 40/20, 67/14, pyllow 39/18, 40/15, 66/25 conform to modern spelling and pronunciation.

But pillough 67/35, pyllough 67/6, pillowgh 67/22, by their archaic spelling suggest an archaic pronunciation.

Plough. Plows 54/9, plomen 55/28 attest the absence of *gh*, but its presence in sound is indicated by its presence in spelling: plogh 49/10, 55/30, plogh horrs 49/10.

Daughter. Doghter 49/35; doghtyr 50/20; daughter 49/26; dowghter 163/23, 185/12.

ght.

The spellings show that this was felt to be a difficult combination.

bough 166/29 = bought.

brough 160/26 = brought.

lygh 133/24, 166/6 = light.

ogth 55/35 = aught.

righ 167/12; rygh 167/4, 168/3 = right.

though 166/11 = thought.

H.

The peculiarities of *h* occupy a good deal of space in these documents.

H omitted at beginning of words:

abet 53/14, habit.

owrys 45/9, hours.

owsald 46/6, but howsald 46/6.

And so, in the second period,

ys (1507) 27 *bis* = his.

oste (1540) 232/24 = host.

thospitall (1536) 203/7.

H omitted in middle of words:

howsald 51/18, but houshold 63/3, 69/4, &c.; howshold 122/15.

scepard 55/31, but schepard 55/27.

swynnarde 55/31, swineherd.

wete 42/12, *but* whete 42/13, 58/2.

the wiche 89/28, *but* the which 81/24; wich 122/16, *but* which 121/37.

This occurs frequently in the name Katherine. We have:

Kateryn 45/20, 46/35, 54/22, 89/33; Katerin 119/20;

Katheryn 152/25, 160/23, &c.; Katherine 145/30.

H omitted at end of words.

This occurs in the name Elizabeth. We have:

Elizabet 42/32, 50/14, 55/7, 58/4, 89/35; *but* Elizabeth 49/23, 55/10.

It is especially common with ordinal numbers:

fourte 46/11; fourt 56/1.

sext 64/3, 69/11, 75/28, 89/10; so also king herry vi. 65/3.

An exception appears to be:

fourthe 83/24, *and* the iiij^{the} 41/35.

In the same way, in the second period, we have:

fyft 154/11.

fourt 231/17.

When Henry VIII is written in full it is:

eight 133/7 (1509), 141/14 (1529), 171/3 (1534); eighte 236/16 (1543), eyght 230/19 (1540); theighte 239/3 (1544).

He is 'eighth' only when he appears in contraction:

viiijth 268/3 (1518), 178/5 (1534), 203/3 (1536), &c.

H inserted at beginning of words:

habundaunt 130/9, 23.

in hall the hast 50/17, *but* in al the hast 46/5, 54/4.

harmor of plate 50/3.

haske 49/13.

haws 49/31, awes = owes.

Helys 112/1, Ellis (Elisha).

hilke 54/14, 16, *but* ilke 54/12.

hordand 49/16, *but* ordand 48/24.

hus 54/4, us.

So also, in the second period,

hable 147/4, 155/10, 200/10.

H inserted in the middle of words:

qwhere 47/19, but qwer 47/11 = choir.

shelf 56/21, but selfe 56/20.

trenthall 54/4.

where 58/36 = were.

And, in the second period,

wholyn 135/18 = woollen.

H in alternative forms:

heires 68/23, 83/5, &c.; hayres 47/10, &c., but eyrys
89/17.

heyrlomes 134/12, but eyrelomys 163/12.

to heyre 232/3, but eyre 184/3.

H in hiatus.

In those combinations in which a vowel preceded a word beginning with *h*, this *h* was often sounded so strongly as to prevent hiatus:

a half yer 56/3, 4.

a hande 51/34.

the hede 51/34.

my hors 48/22, 57/16.

my heires 62/3.

my howsald servants 46/6.

a honeste priste 223/5.

In other cases, expedients are used to avoid the hiatus:

an hable preste 147/4.

myn herte 97/19.

myne hayres 47/21.

myn heires 61/30.

an honeste chambre 229/9: oon honeste priste 228/20.

L.

The letter *l* when preceded by *a* acquires a diphthongal sound. In the earlier period, this was accompanied by the disappearance of the *l* itself, as it still is in Scots.

Examples are:

Psalter. Sauter 48/9; sautre 54/22; sawter 38/28,
51/10.

Altar. Auter 38/7, 49/8.

This dropping of the *l*, however, is infrequent in the second period. Auter 164/13 (1534); Awter 265/16, 270/8. Aulter —139/21 (1529), 223/2 (1538)—is the usual spelling. Alter occurs 231/1, 264/25.

Hawberdes 251/29 = halberds.

N.

In certain words *n* is occasionally let drop.

covent 76/34, &c., is as frequent as convent 74/4, &c.

ngth was felt to be difficult :

lenght 257/28.

strenghe 189/18, 202/9 ; strenght 233/3.

R.

The letter *r* tends to be left out :

Fother 48/20 = further.

embrouded 45/24, *but* embrowdred 41/9.

performace 266/20.

scasely 49/11.

wosted 41/15, *but* worsted 40/5.

Sh and sch.

The prevalence of the spelling *sch* in the earlier period perhaps indicates a greater volume of sibilation, both at the beginning and in the middle of words. But the simpler forms in *sh* are found throughout the whole of the period, and in great abundance.

schall 50/22.

sche 49/33, 50/16.

schepe 51/3.

schepard 55/27, *but* shepard 43/32.

schetes 56/35, *but* shetis 40/23.

schotes 51/26.

parisch 66/3.

qwischens 78/23 ; qwisshens 40/13.

worschip 47/11.

The forms *parich* 51/30, *parych* 45/7, possibly suggest the domination of the guttural element in the word as spoken.

T.

The letter *t* occasionally disappears:

Sayn 45/20, 54/22, *but* saynt 54/21

The letter *t* is occasionally intruded:

Patent 163/28 = paten.

Th.

There are double forms of certain abstract nouns, one set with the element *th*, the other set without it.

heale 58/35; helth 38/4, 89/23, 90/6, 120/12, 145/25,
151/11, 169/15, 265/36, &c.

wele 261/30; welth 134/7, 150/21, 151/10, 170/16,
266/19. Cp. brede (= breadth) 136/11, 257/31.

V.

In Scots *v* disappears in *give* and its compounds—e.g. *gi'e* = *give*; *forgi'e* = *forgive*. In that singular 1451 deed, which has so many other northern forms, there is possibly an example of this:

'I will my tenauntes y^t aw me rente haf forgyn yer of'
55/37 = (exactly) Scots *forgi'en*.

V and w.

Considerable fluctuation is found between the explosive *v* and the liquid *w*:

Avyse 75/25; awisse 47/10 = advice.

Beuerlay 53/23; Bewarley 53/21.

newew 49/1; newew 49/30, 56/22.

oversight 75/11; owrsight 47/10.

purvey 77/10; purwad 52/24.

travers 49/13; trawers 57/5.

valo 48/17; walaw 48/16.

veluet 45/21; welwet 51/10.

vessell 62/31, 67/34; wessell 43/35.

vestementes 48/25; westment 45/17; westmentes 265/33.

as wel 62/26; als velle 47/13.

wered 49/2; veres 53/14.

wyne 39/34; vyne 77/12.

W.

Unless they are all copyist's errors, there are traces of tendencies, in the combination *ow*,

(i) to reject *o*, or (ii) to reject *w*.

We have (i) Wlff 43/4, 23, *but* Wolfe 43 n. 3.
plws 54/6.

but (ii) plomen 55/28.
groyng 168/7.

p.

The use of the 'thorn' symbol continued throughout both periods, sporadically: see especially p. 44.

Some of the later examples of it use are:

þat 151/28 (1528), 185/9 (1535).

þer 157/5 (1533).

þen 159/7 (1533).

þe 206/16 (1536).

oper 206/14 (1536), 218/13 (1537), 226/14 (1539), 241/18 (1544).

Late examples of *y* are:

thoyer partie (= the oper) (1517) 268/5.

hedgyng and oyer (= oper) menndyng (1518) 269/5.

for yem 228/14 (1539) = þem.

y^s my laste wyll 233/3 (1540) = þis.

yis my wyll 233/7.

In y^e name 230/17, and throughout this deed (1540).

wytnessethe y^t 230/20, and throughout this deed (1540).

3.

This symbol, in the early period, is used occasionally,

(a) as an initial letter for *y*:

3erly 47/27.

(b) as a final letter for *s*, especially of the plural suffix.

thappurtenaunc3 81/19; thappurtenaunce3 121/32.

profute3 73/24.

tenement3 73/15.

Metathesis of r.

This is not infrequent in the earlier period:

byrning 54/31; bryn 54/33.

Croston 73/3, 76/8 = Corston.

girdyll 49/26; gridyll 50/6.

schred 28; scherde 27 = shroud.

strike 51/28 = stirk.

third 46/11; thred 56/1.

It is found also in the second period: e.g. brent 252/32; threde 266/18.

This is possibly the explanation of such forms as :

matrons 43/2 = ? martens (fur).

onormentes 47/7.

This tendency to metathesis possibly accentuated the tendency to curtail the ending of words in *-er* when the *es* of plurality or the *ed* of past participle was added :

membris 76/12.

ordres 43/11, but orders 43/7.

wedres 43/29.

diapred 41/19.

embrowdred 41/9.

lettred 96/3.

powdred 38/8.

Metathesis of w.

This singular form of spelling occurs in a few documents of the second period :

betewne (1534) 166/27 = between.

dewll 133/16 (1526), and occasionally afterwards down to 185/10 (1535) = dwell.

tewlue 133/20 (1526) = twelve.

It possibly arose in some dialectical difficulty of pronunciation.

A similar difficulty perhaps gave the spelling :

tuythes 225/11, 227/31 for tithes.

Fluctuation of vowel sounds.

A and e.

Among, amonges 40/36, 147/24; emong, emonges, emongest 53/23, 56/30, 150/11, 166/13, 169/32.

barne 235/32; berne 161/22.

colage 45/16, 53/12; college 78/15; colyge 54/16.

harnas 49/6; harnesse 67/7; hernas 45/14.

Harré, Harry 51/13, 56/28, 163/15; Herry 61/20, 89/26, 163/19.

lasse 39/7; les, lesse 54/9, 76/31.

masse 43/8, 77/13; messe 52/12, 54/27.
ordand 47/15; ordend 47/7; ordeyned 78/25.
parishes 249/24; parych 45/7; parys 54/6; peryshe 175/10.
reparacions 226/2; reperacions 133/22, 166/3.
ryngars 53/11; ryngers 157/27.
siluar 49/4; syluer 39/35.
tenament 167/21; tenement 167/18.
than, thanne 77/27, 85/21, 155/12, 257/8; then, thenne
76/20, 85/25, 155/11.
towall 67/2, 34; towell 39/21.
wark 120/2; werk 40/13, 119/1, 257/28.
wax 52/27; wex 77/12.
whanne 79/8; when 90/4.
whar 55/6; wher 46/15.
yard 164/9; yerd 64/9, 162/13.

A and i.

to hing 46/22 = hang; hanginge 192/2.

A and o.

awes 48/19, 50/9; ows 50/15.
haldyng 53/13; holden 99/3.
housbond 43/9, 267/4.
knawen 46/4; knowen 46/9.
knewlige 97/29; knowlage 97/11.
landes 158/12, 175/15; lond 157/9, 158/9, 185/5.
nottwithstandinge 196/18; notwithstondyng 199/2, 209/6.
stand 199/35; stond 151/29, 161/21, 163/12, 257/27.
walaw 48/16; valo 48/17.

Soul sometimes appears with a dominant *a* element, as in Scots; frequently with the dominant *o* element, as in standard English; occasionally with the diphthong as in English-Irish.

saule 54/2, 57/24; sawle 45/5.

soule 72/11, 120/17.

sowle 53/24, 73/33, 117/13, 119/17.

A with m or n.

In certain words where *a* is followed by *m* or *n* it develops a diphthongal sound.

chambir 39/14, 40/2; chaumbir 41/9, 14.

aunswere 197/14.
 braunchys 45/21.
 chaunsell 177/9.
 chauntre 47/13; chauntry 112/1.
 demaundinge 229/4.
 exchaunge 167/19.
 graund 145/29.
 graunte 197/26.
 launde 175/11.
 obseruaunce 121/19.
 remembraunce 137/1.

E and i.

The short vowels *e* and *i* (or *y*) are interchangeable:

betwext 175/4; betwixt 177/6, 220/5; betwyxte 193/14.
 blessed 72/6; blissid 45/14; blyssed 45/3.
 enioye 175/27, 176/4; inioye 173/5, 9, 205/33.
 frenged 43/21; fringed 39/6.
 obetes 47/8; obit 47/29, 77/8.
 other 81/13; othir 47/9.
 prest 158/28; priste 166/18.
 seth 141/1; sith 141/16.
 sex 208/6; sixe 240/16.
 yett 196/25; yit 130/2.

E and o.

Short *e* and short *o* are interchanged:

keuer 163/24; couer 162/20.
 longe 41/20, 25; longest 161/19; lenger 41/24, 84/13;
 lengest 154/10.

Long *e* and long *o* are interchanged:

yeman 133/16; yoman 124/34.

E and u.

Short *e* and short *u* are also interchangeable:

ferder 133/17; furdre 133/2.
 surples 57/13 = surplus.
 successers 47/18; successurs 47/4.

Ew and aw.

ewen 42/1, 3; awe 185/8.

E (long) (or **ew**) and **ow**.

meveable and unmoveable 118/10.

ewen 42/1, 3; yow 51/32; yowes 51/9.

you 113/4, 210/9; yow 96/1, 128/15, &c. = 2nd pers. pron.

So also (1507) schrede 27 = shroud.

Intruded i.

In an appreciable number of words an *-er* syllable has *i* inserted. This occurs also in *-el* and *-en* syllables.

Archier 64/19; Archer 64/4.

chargier 67/35;

maistier 63/1; maister 40/10.

manoire 68/20, 74/9; manoir 74/31, 81/11; manoyer 62/22,

68/27, *but usually* maner 68/22, 81/15, &c. = manor.

matier 61/23, 25, 112/3, 256/29; maters 97/11, 175/16;

matters 196/22.

platier 67/4; plater 43/35, 67/25.

prechier 117/30.

quartier 58/1, 2; quarters 231/18.

tresorier 130/17.

appariell 38/7; apparell 38/10.

qwysshens 39/14; qwysshens 41/23.

O and **u**.

o and *u* are apparently interchangeable:

Bokeland and Buckland 37.

borde 49/10; burde 49/11 = plank.

bot 45/11, 53/22, 26; but 112/11.

costes 211/10; custes 257/24.

hondred 164/7; hundred 170/5.

as moche 69/3, 97/16.

opon 48/3, 50/18, 56/10 = upon 256/29; per opon 45/9;

therupon 39/4, 6.

otherwise 65/4; uthewise 56/13, 15, 18.

second 163/2, 266/17; secunde 38/16, 17.

sommes 78/33; summes 62/11.

valo 46/25; valu 73/31.

U and **e**.

Bury, *burial* are found so spelt, probably as so sounded:

buried 57/25; buried 73/22; buryall 157/5.

But the forms in most frequent use imply the shorter modern pronunciation :

bery 52/5 ; bered 45/14, 54/1 ; beryd 45/5.

bereall 45/11, 52/13 ; beryall 52/9.

Build has a distinct *e* sound :

Beeldid 76/37, 77/23.

U and i.

burning 48/3 ; byrnyng 52/28, 54/31.

busshope 197/1, 220/21 ; bisshop 111/3, 115/4.

churche 64/14, 157/4 ; chirche 97/5, 129/12, 139/20.

furst 45/5 ; furst 256/13 ; first 72/5 ; first 38/15.

Ue and ew.

In modern Lincolnshire dialect *rule* is pronounced *rew-l*.

Examples of this are possibly found here, viz.—

rewlid 57/20 ; rewle 88/9 ; trewe 97/4, 99/6.

Y and e (long).

In many cases in which the preposition 'by' occurs by itself, or in combination, it is spelt and no doubt was pronounced 'be'.

Be (= by, i. e. by means of) 47/6, 83/20 ; *but* by 89/36.

Be (= by, i. e. beside) 45/7, 49/2 ; *but* by 45/11.

before 96/1 ; bifore 99/11 ; byfore 128/8 ; *so also* before
said 89/19 ; bifore said 98/3, 99/15.

behynde 58/30 ; bihynde 269/7.

beseche 90/7 ; biseche 99/15.

betwene 64/20 ; bi twen 257/16.

be witte 58/4 ; by witte 57/24 = bequeath.

beyend 40/25 ; by yend 40 *note*.

So also :

he (1506) 24 ; hee (1533) 162/15 ; hy 264/25 ; hye 49/11,
164/13 ; high 41/24.

Duplication of vowels.

Vowels are found doubled to give them either a prolonged or a diphthongal sound.

laate 99/7 = late.

maad 97/9 ; maade 191/17 = made.

hool 258/11 = whole.

hoold 97/23 = hold.
 mooste 249/7 = most.
 noon 97/24 = none.
 oon 39/21, 111/4 = one.
 soo 111/10 = so.
 soon 267/23 = son.

Hiatus.

See *supra* p. 279; and *infra* p. 289.

Examples of hiatus, in the first period, are:

a apparell 39/3.
 a auter 39/3.
 a encensure 38/6.
 a other 120/20.

And, in the second period:

my awnt 185/14.
 a obligation 202/5.

Crasis.

Examples of hiatus in which *the* stands before a word beginning with a vowel, are, in the second portion of these documents,

the appurtenaunces 166/38, 167/19.
 the intent 168/30.
 the one hedde 237/13.
 the use 140/12, 158/24; the uses 144/13.

But the documents, from first to last, show great partiality for *crasis*, in its written form; and, by consequence, this must have been, coincidently, in use in the spoken language. In modern English *crasis* has been conspicuous chiefly in the slurrings needed to adapt the words of metrical psalms¹ to psalm tunes, whether the crasis was indicated by the printer's *th'* or was left to the vocalist's discretion. In these documents it is a recognized feature of solemn legal documents.

To the first period belong:

thabbot 123/27.
 thapparell 38/14, 78/23.
 thappurtenaunce 73/2, 121/32.

¹ Secular examples are not wanting: Gray's *Elegy* has in reality 'await alike thinevitable hour'.

thentent 111/5, 116/3.

thoffence 128/14.

More complicated are the duplicate forms in which, after the definite article has merged by *crasis* into the word following, a superfluous definite article is prefixed.

the thonne 48/23; the thothy 48/24; the tothir 48/23.

Apparently to be explained in the same way are:

laumber 51/4 = French *l'ambre* with the English *au* sound (*supra*, p. 284).

athye 47/20 = 'at-they, i. e. that they.

oft 55/27 = of the (of t').

war 54/2 = we are (i. e. we're).

The second period of these documents is even more prolific and bolder in *crases* than the first. Typical examples are:

thabbott 131/19.

thaduyse 255/9.

thannunciation 171/34.

thappesing 175/17.

tharchangell 171/26.

tharreragies 206/4.

thauoydyng 175/19.

thende 132/25, 198/12.

therbage 269/10; the harbage 269/21.

thintent 197/2, 11.

thoctaves 219/2.

thold 268/12, *but* the hold 268/14.

thordre 131/20, 249/21.

thother 237/14.

We even find:

thuse 140/14; thuses 143/35.

Somewhat more extreme examples of *crasis* are:

thospitall (1536) 203/7, where the initial *h* has been carried off.

tabide 220/21 = to abide.

Transference of consonant from tail of preceding to head of following word.

A special feature connected with hiatus, and the effort to avoid it in spoken language, has been the removal from the end

of a preceding word to the beginning of a word beginning with a vowel, of an intervening consonant.

Examples of the original correct use of words are :

In the earlier period,

myn owne 88/9, 98/4.

And, in the later period,

an other 146/30.

anoper 156/16.

Examples of the transferred letter are :

In the earlier period,

my Naunte 124/27.

a nax 51/33 ; a naxe 49/34.

j. nother 43/1.

a nother 89/32, 120/26.

my nowne 48/19, 51/32.

In the later period,

a nother 167/5, 237/11.

Personal Pronouns.

The personal pronouns, in every language, are the oldest and most enduring words of all. In English they have retained more than any other words their original character, and therefore there are few notes to be made about them, Middle English uses seldom differing from Modern English uses.

First personal pronoun singular.

Two points only need be noticed :

(i) examples of the dative (*a*) pure, (*b*) with a preposition.

(*a*) the baslard that his fadir withid me 49/30.

(*b*) to pray for me & (*a*) do me a messe 53/14.

(ii) a strange 'anacolouthic' construction, 68/13, 'Wite all . . . men . . . me . . . that it is my last wille', which seems to be quite a Thucydidean construction.

'Wite all men' [let all men know] 'me to have made my last will to the effect that.'

The inflected objective case would have made a possible construction, but when it is reached a more modern form is adopted, regardless of grammar.

Second personal pronouns : singular and plural.

There is nothing to be put on record here, except the *ow* spelling (*supra*, p. 285), which possibly indicates a difference of pronunciation.

yow (courtesy plural) 96/1.

yow (actual plural) 99/15, 128/15.

Third personal pronoun singular : masculine.

Possibly the only noteworthy points are the (a) direct, (b) the indirect dative :

(a) as him semeth best 64/20.

(b) I will he haue . . . as I haue hordand hym 49/16.

Also the use of the simple personal pronoun for the reflexive :

[he] submitted him vnto . . . correccion 128/10 = himself.

Third personal pronoun singular : neuter.

In the earlier period, the archaic form *hit* is still in regular use :

(a) for nominative case 73/17, 76/30, 112/10 ;

(b) and objective case 50/24, 63/13, 68/19, 73/18, 24, 80/28 ;

(c) and in imperative (3rd person) 130/11.

But, even in this period, the modern form *it* is usual. A few of the early examples are :

(a) for nominative case 46/4, 5 ; 57/17, 78/5, 122/17.

(b) for objective case 45/10, 12 ; 64/20, 89/17, 122/17.

A peculiarity, in regard of syntax, is that this pronoun is used redundantly :

till thei haue therof CC. marc. to deel hit for my sowle
68/19.

In the second period, *hit* still continues, e.g. (a) for nominative case 159/22, 161/19 ; also *hyt* 163/20.

(b) for objective case 157/14, 20 ; 162/5, 165/12 ; also *hyt* 163/10, 185/17.

In this second period, *it* is so predominant that except for parallelism, no quotation need be made ; but, for that reason :

(a) nominative, 168/13, 221/20.

From the point of view of strict syntax this pronoun is still found used redundantly or quasi-redundantly: e. g.

All the . . . mony . . . as shall growe . . . I will that hit be orderyd 158/27.

The resydewe of my goodes . . . I wyll hit be deuided 164/14.

The other part I will it shall go 168/13.

The residue of my moveable goodes . . . I will itt be disposed 182/16.

I will that . . . all suche money as I haue . . . bequethed . . . that itt be ordered 182/27.

In each case the meandering character of the sentence, and the inversion of its natural objective case, sufficiently accounts for the redundancy.

The possessive case of this pronoun is still *his*, there being as yet no *its*. But it so happens that examples of *his* (= modern *its*) are rare in these documents:

My maner . . . with his appertenaunce 68/14, 118/19.
a obligation in his full strenghe 202/9.

Anomalies in the use of *it* occur, as, e. g., as used with reference to an antecedent plural noun (possibly by attraction of the nearest singular member of a compound phrase):

<I will> all the remenauntz of whete and malt that it be departed 42/13.

Wrytinges whiche every busshope hathe in commaundement to cause itt to be shewed 195/4.

Third personal pronoun plural.

They, them appear in a variety of spellings which leave it doubtful whether the diphthongal sound intended was designed to rhyme with (i) *may*, or (ii) with *might*.

In the nominative, there is a distinct *a* form:

tha, e. g. I will *tha* have *tham* 48/3.

tha awe me 53/21.

This appears also as *y^a* (= *pa*).

as *y^a* be gettyn 53/31.

In the objective, there are also instances of this distinctive *a* form:

I will *tha* haue *tham* 48/3.

yam (= *pam*) 49/14.

This *a* appears in various spellings in (i) the nominative of the pronoun:

thay 48/19.

yai (= pai) 48/25, 57/19.

(ii) In the objective case of the pronoun:—

yam (= pam) 47/6, 48/7, 24; 53/23.

yame (= pame) 48/23.

thaym 62/20; thayme 62/14.

Of this pronoun there are also, in every case, diphthongal forms, with *e* dominant in the diphthong.

Can it be assumed that *ei*, *ey*, in these cases rhymed with *ei* in 'eiderdown'? or must they be taken to rhyme with *ay*, in hay, may? In Essex, now, the girl's name 'May' is pronounced with a diphthongal sound lying somewhere between *ei* and *ay*, which I cannot myself pronounce, often as I have heard it, or reduce to writing, often as I have tried.

The shorter, simple *e* forms suggest the former use of this *ei* vowel where the old spelling is found.

(i) In the nominative case:

they 48/21, 63/13.

thei 41/4, 58/35, 63/9.

Here a more distinctive *e* sound is given (if the reading is correct) in:

p^e 46/7, and the 267/15.

(ii) In the objective case:

theime 130/10, 19.

theym 58/35, 97/33, 99/4.

Of this pronoun there are, from first to last, in these documents, the *e* (short) forms which alone are recognized in Modern English.

(i) in the dative case:

them 80/26.

(ii) in the objective case:

them 58/32, 63/11, 77/25.

In the way of syntax it is to be noted that, in involved sentences, *they* may be redundant both in (i) nominative and (ii) objective case:

(i) I wol that al those persones . . . thei reioyse 62/7.

(ii) The resydewe of all my goodes . . . I leve them to 169/13.

(iii) Another anomaly is that this personal pronoun is occasionally used as a demonstrative, in a way still constantly in plebeian use though frowned on by standard speech :

to be deuyded betwene them thre persones 193/16 (1535).
all them vj. chyldren 232/1 (1540).

In the same way *those*, would now be used, and not *them*, in
—many of them not auctorized (1536) 196/25.

Note further that, in the earlier period of these documents, there survive examples of the older *hem* form, both (i) in dative and (ii) in objective case :

(i) like as I have graunted hem 62/8.

(ii) objective after prepositions: betwene hem 61/25; for hem 41/30; of hem 63/8, 75/24, 97/32; to hem 62/1, 97/8, 28; vnto hem 128/14; with hem 97/29.

objective after transitive verb: 41/36, 77/36, 89/21, 97/24, 28.

Reflexive Pronoun.

The reflexive element is *self*. In the earlier set of documents this is added to the personal pronouns, but never receives plurality mark, plurality being indicated only by the pronoun to which the reflexive element is attached. This restriction is partly observed in the second period: e. g.

my selfe dyd bye 158/22.

them self (1486) 256/19, 259/1.

them selve 187/36 (1535).

but them selves 197/12 (1533).

The personal pronoun is found used reflexively without augmentation by *self* (see p. 291).

The reflexive pronoun admits of a variety of irregular, *ad sensum* constructions:

howe every oon doth vse them selves 197/12 (1536).

In the second set of documents the modern use emerges, in which *self* becomes the important factor in the compound pronoun and is preceded by the possessive pronoun:

call every deanry by ther selves 195/11 (1535).

how they do use ther selves 197/8 (1536).

Possessive Pronouns.

Possessive pronoun of the first person singular.

Note may be made of the way in which the alternative forms *my* and *mine* are used.

My is generally used before consonants, but in several cases it stands before vowels exactly as it does now :

my aras 57/11.

my auncestres 76/28, 124/15.

my executours 44/3, 68/18, 75/23.

my obit 47/29.

my othir godes 56/12 ; my other manoyrs 74/23.

Myn is very rarely used before consonants, but is regularly used before vowels :

myn runian 51/28 ; *but* my runian 55/27.

myne affeccion 46/12.

myne armes 45/22, 86/14.

myn aunceters 77/21.

myn entent 75/22.

myn executors 41/2, 44/9, 58/34, 120/9.

myn interment 57/17.

myn use 74/24.

My and *Myn* before *h* : *supra*, p. 279.

Myn inverted :

Ther soules helthe and myn 182/28.

Myn preceded by prepositions :

other friendis of myn 41/32.

every tenant of myn 42/11.

a longe gowne of myn 51/31.

ale of myne 56/11.

for my wyffe saule and for myne 53/28.

every godchilde of myne 192/13.

Possessive pronoun of third person singular.

for my soull and hyrs 232/13.

Possessive pronoun of third person plural.

Three typical spellings occur, with (i) *ai*, the sound now in use, (ii) *ei*, possibly representing (*supra*, p. 293) a different sound, (iii) a short *e*, as now in some dialects :

thair 97/25, 36.

their 63/9 ; their 62/2 ; theyre 58/31.
ther 48/7.

Demonstrative pronouns.

Demonstrative pronoun this.

The plural is found in a great variety of spellings :

thes articles 97/19.
theis wittenesse 64/25 ; thies 259/10.
this present³ 89/28.
ilk on of yis (= pis) 55/25.
thys x. prestes 54/1.
this premisses 175/16.

Instead of *these*, in one instance, *theke* is used :

theke CC. marces 68/21.

Demonstrative pronoun that.

The normal plural is found, and also some alternative forms :

al those persones 62/6.
thoo that I haue here 42/2.
thoo that be at London 43/22.
thoo maners 74/25.

An anomaly is *that* used for *those* :

that x. quartiers 58/2.

Relative Pronouns.

In the English of these deeds distinct preference is shown for the indeclinable pronouns—the same for things inanimate and animate, and for all numbers and cases. *That*, *which*, *the which*, are constantly in use ; the declinable *who*, especially in the earlier period, is very sparsely used :

the moste eternall god that made it 119/17.
costes of him that so sweth 112/17.
to go to him that is next in descender 124/3.
the place that I holde 89/27.
Yow alle that stande here 99/16.
all . . . people that . . . this . . . wryting . . . shall heere
81/1.
all men that I haue offendid 46/14.
tenementes that I haue purchased 62/23, 123/15.

In some cases *that*, relative, is preceded by *that* demonstrative, expressing the Latin *id quod* :

I wol . . . that then his brother . . . haue that that is beqwethed 124/2; cp. 258/34, 259/7.

In other cases the relative does duty for both pronouns, as in Latin *quod* may be used for *id quod*:

[I forgive] my tenantes al that þe [= they] have offendyd me 46/7.

[where I have not paid] þerfor that may be knawen resonably 46/4.

bedys of corall as far as that I have may laste 50/12.

I wol that myn executours . . . haue that is necessary for hem 41/29.

euery parcell of that [= that which is] made vnto . . . Clemens 168/32.

except that [= that which] longeth to the carpenter 258/22; cp. 265/31.

This pronoun is also used in various idiomatic ways:

to this tyme that I was examined bifor yow 97/12 [that = at which].

That was written in several forms besides its normal spelling:

(i) with the 'thorn' letter—þat.

(ii) with *y*, which was stupidly substituted for the thorn—
pore men yat schal hold the torchis 55/4.
ilke clark y^t helpes to syng 53/7.

(iii) without the initial letter—

my gret boke . . . at was the freerys 48/9 [at = that].
to fede yam with at come 55/2.

Relative Pronoun *who*.

wommen to whom I have granted 61/26 (1452).

persones to whom I have graunted 62/6, cp. 124/11.

my wiff in whom I put my . . . truste 75/19; cp. 118/29.

Ihesu whom I dayly beseche 90/7.

In the earlier portion of the deeds I have found the relative *who*, in the nominative case, only in compounds:

who so euer 41/7; who so 68/27.

Examples of the use of *who* in the second portion of the deeds are:

as who wolde saye 252/5.

by goddes grace who you preserue 264/13.

dame Sanche Digby to whome I commytt 147/30.

Thomas . . . and willyam whom I make . . . myn executors
162/2, cp. 169/16, 261/27.

whome . . . he badde to be content 252/4.

my wiffe . . . whome I . . . make my executrice 183/18;
cp. 185/16, 192/20, 233/4, 265/35.

by whose authority 197/7.

The blunder in grammar in the following quotation (1537) possibly indicates the unfamiliarity of the pronoun: myn executours, whome is Sir Gilbert . . . and Sir Nicholas 182/17.

There is an odd inversion of the natural order in a will of 1540: I pray . . . whome I . . . make supervisor . . . Edward Dymoke 233/6.

The compound is also found: bi whom so euer 259/6.

Relative pronoun which.

Which is used for the neuter relative (singular and plural), exactly as we now use it.

a flat pece . . . which is . . . at london 43/34.

att which tyme 97/10.

tymbir and wod . . . which I have solde 62/1.

bedding and napery which I have not besett 40/32.

sawcers which I am serued with-all 44/1.

But it is also used where grammar now would require *who* or *whom*.

myn executours which shall be Ionet . . . and Sir Robert
120/10.

your oratours . . . whiche have but litell 129/5.

ij. of my sons which I fynde at Cambridge 121/37.

to them whiche he thinketh beste 261/29.

The form in which *h* is dropped (*supra*, p. 278) is found:
wich Napery I wol be sold 122/16.

This pronoun is also used in the same way in the second portion of the deeds:

money whiche dothe remayn in a bagge 153/30.

whiche margery . . . I make myn executrix 156/25.

many men whiche . . . doo 217/15 (1537).

my feoffes wiche now stond feoffed 151/29.

household stuff wych was bequethyd 134/11.

all and singuler wiche varyance 175/17.

It is sometimes used with a verb in the singular, although the antecedent is plural: bookes whiche was intitled 249/9.

Relative pronoun the which.

This is perhaps the pronoun most frequently in use for all genders. Examples are:

Roger Iordan, the which is knowen for a notary 116/2.

the which Margery is lyvyng 66/5.

for the which I crye god mercy 115/10 = fault.

those persones the which be bounden for me 62/10.

my feoffies . . . the which I haue enfeofed 73/8.

opinions, the whiche I haue long taught 99/2.

lettres by the which I haue falsly deceyued 115/3.

The form without *h* occurs (*supra*, p. 278):

my indenture the wiche I delyuere 89/28.

This pronoun is used exactly in the same way in the second portion of these deeds:

Agnes . . . and william . . . the whiche I make my . . . executoures 150/22.

the annuite . . . the wiche I wyll it shall continewe 168/37.

xL li. . . . of the wiche I will 168/17.

Relative pronoun whilk.

The use of this pronoun is confined to one deed (1451). It survives in Scots dialects, but (I fancy) most frequently in the form *the whilk*. It is odd to find, in this one deed, the variant spellings by *wh* and by *quh*, still recognizable in Scots. Cp. *ilk*, p. 300:

bedys . . . qwhilke my lord Cardenale yaue me 46/24.

bedys . . . whilke I gart make 46/27.

t[w]o almar . . . whilke ar ordand 48/24.

iiij li. of mony, qwylyk I will be putte perto 52/25.

other godes . . . whilk ar not 56/12.

Distributive pronoun.

Each and compounds.

eche of the sayde . . . chylidren 169/2 = every individual out of several individuals.

iche of myn executours 63/8.

to ich of them 74/2.

thei or ich of them 120/30.

ichon of us 112/16 ; iche oon of them 265/30.

This *ichon* is found in an odd *ad sensum* construction :

ichon of vs . . . haue subscribed 112/19.

Ilk and compounds.

These forms, with one exception, are found only in one deed (1451); cp. *whilk*, p. 299. The example in 58/32 is in a deed of 1452, also Lincolnshire :

ilke prior and priores that comes 52/9 : cp. 52/11, 12, 14,

15, 21, 22, 23 ; 53/1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13.

that they ilkone haue me in mynd 48/12.

Ilkon of yam (= þam) 50/12, cp. 50/17 ; 51/16, 19, 24,

27, 29, 32 ; 55/19, 21, 23, 25, 28, 32 ; 57/18.

to ilkon of them 58/32 ; ilkone 56/20.

Ilkyn of yam 51/13, 14.

Every and compounds.

to every towne 43/13, 16.

to eueryche of the iiij. ordres of the freris 43/7, 258/13.

she doo kepe my childern and every of them 156/23.

and every of them to have for there labour 157/23.

I will that euery off them have 147/38.

Either (of two individuals).

Like *they* (*supra*, p. 292), this word has alternative spellings : (i) an *a* type, (ii) an *e* type. These probably represent different pronunciations :

(i) athir of tham 52/35.

ayther of my sistres 58/25.

aythir of yam 52/3.

(ii) either of the bayles 77/7.

either of them 78/18.

either of vs 112/17.

eyther of the proctours 77/3.

Either is found in *ad sensum* construction, as if it were *both* :

accions that either of vs have 112/17.

either of þe parties have put there seales 206/18;
cp. 269/26.

we, either the sayd parties 175/18.

Either (of more than two).

to either of the said chirches 181/24 (four churches).

Nouns.

Plural Forms.

A multitude of plural forms must be set aside because they are only expansions of contractions in the MS., and are therefore of no authority. In the text they are sufficiently differentiated by the italicizing of the termination.

Plural formed by change of vowel.

If the slight indications given by the spelling could be relied upon, it might be concluded that at this period some words, which now have one form for both singular and plural, e. g. *sheep*, formed their plural by shortening their vowels :

x score schepe 51/3 may be taken to represent the modern plural 'sheep'.

iiiij. schep 52/4 is possibly a shortened form, only it must be admitted that this form appears as a singular, j. shep 64/13.

Other examples of this possibly shortened form for plural are:

sheppe 231/13, 18.

shippe 57/28.

Plural in -er.

Child, in some cases, retained its obsolete simple plural, in the second period as well as in the first :

childer 122/23, 124/11, 154/16, 23 (1533).

chylder 164/21 (1534), 232/3, 16 (1540).

But in the majority of cases it had already had attached to it, as a second plurality mark, *-en*.

childeren 66/23.

childern 64/20, 123/28, 124/22.

chylderyn 161/19 (1533).

childern 145/27 (1529), 156/9 (1533).

cheldren 169/5 (1534).

children 166/12 (1534), 192/15 (1535).

chyldren 169/2, 11 (1534), 232/2 (1540).

chyldryn 155/7 (1533), 161/25 (1533).

In 122/27 *child* may refer to Richard alone, but is more probably a clerical error for *childer*, as in 122/23.

Plural in -en.

Cowe occurs in the singular, e. g. 41/37, 42/6, 51/28, 185/7, 247/2; *kowe* 247/10. Its plural occurs in the form *kyne* 42/1, 3, 8; 153/27; but also in the form *kye* 123/32, 132/12, 147/28, 231/17.

Sow has for plural *swynne* 51/26.

Ewe occurs in the singular both as *ewe* and as *awe* 185/8, 10, &c. Two forms of its plural are found: *even* 42/1, 3; *ewes* 192/12, and *youwes* 51/9.

oxen 147/27.

bredren 182/1.

Alholon 219/8; but Allhalowys 161/10, 166/1, 264/23;
all Halouse 246/9.

Allsoulen 180/7, 191/20.

Oddly enough, *hosen* does not occur, the ending *-es* being used.

my hosys 51/23.

a payre of blak hoses 58/15.

Plural in -es.

There are numerous examples in which this ending appears as *-s* (occasionally written with the old symbol ȝ), without adding a new syllable:

candil styks 47/5.

cosyns 50/20.

creditours 63/6.

executours 63/7.

labours 63/8.

matyns 47/19.

ornamentȝ 73/31.

prayers 50/25.

prests 47/14.
 remenauntz 42/8.
 sawcers 44/1.
 sisters 120/5.
 successurs 48/7.
 tenementz 73/15.
 vestements 47/8.

There are, in addition to these, cases where this ending could not be attached to the word as a syllable but only as a letter: e.g.
 feoffes 73/32; feoffies 82/17.

There are, on the other hand, plenty of examples in which this ending could not be attached except as a distinct syllable:

chargies 112/9.
 crosses 47/8; crossys 47/5.
 dirigies 120/16.
 horsys 57/16.
 messes 53/23; messys 53/27.
 messuagies 171/14.
 wabies 145/34.

But the general suggestion of the forms is that, at this period, *-es* was felt to be a distinct syllable, to be sounded separately, not merely where position demanded it to be so sounded but in all cases. Hence probably the variety of spellings it presents *-ies*, *-is*, *-üs*, *-ys*, showing that the writer regarded it as a syllable, not as a mere sibilant.

armys 49/4, 62/19.
 autarus 48/1.
 bedys 49/21.
 bequestis 121/3; beqwestis 64/18.
 bokys 47/4.
 bottelles 39/30; botellys 39/34, 42/29.
 botys 51/22.
 copis 45/18, 121/10; copys 47/4.
 dettes 46/9; dettis 64/18; dettys 46/2, 89/37.
 freres 117/32; frerys 76/34, 117/27.
 landes 137/27; landis 73/1; landys 48/20, 168/27.
 lordys 63/7.
 manourys 73/1.
 profutez 73/21.

relikys 47/2.

rentis 47/25; renttys 48/25.

ropys 133/24.

saltcotys 123/1.

sowlys 89/24.

spones 43/28; sponys 43/26; sponnys 232/21.

successorus 47/25.

talys 49/21.

Plural of words ending in -f.

In the earlier set of these deeds, there is no instance of *f* changing to *v* before the plural suffix:

cnyffes 52/1.

glofys 51/24.

wiffes 82/32, 85/23; wyffes 82/32, 84/16, 85/24, 89/20, 90/2.

This is also found in the second set of deeds, e.g.

wiffes 142/1.

But in these the *-v* forms appear:

lives 144/6 (1529), 153/35 (1533); lyves 267/10 (1517).

stavis 251/29 (1535).

It must be noted, however, that the alternative *-v* form is found also in the singular: see *supra*, p. 276.

Plurals without -es ending.

In certain cases, in order to avoid sibilation, the plurality ending seems omitted. But in some of these instances duplicate forms have the ending:

ij. chaleys 38/6 = chalices. In 77/10 chaleys, and in 47/4, 9 chalis, the word is probably (but not certainly) plural.

surplys 47/5 = (probably) surplises.

oon of the Iustice of the common place 81/10 = Justices of the Common Pleas.

appurtenaunce 68/14, 81/12, &c.; appurtenaunȝ 78/28; *but* appurtenaunces 76/7; appurtenauncȝ 81/19.

seruice 47/20, 82/11 = services: *but* services 52/6.

j. of my best cart hors 49/10; j. of my best plough hors 49/10: *but* cart horses 41/36; horses 41/33.

evidence 134/24; *but* evydenses 168/27.

witnesse 96/4; wytnes 155/20 (1533); witenes 221/29.

ynche 257/29, 33.

In certain words ending in *-el*, the word is generally used collectively, and therefore has no plurality mark.

vessell means the whole household set of metal dishes to serve meat at table 135/1; e. g.

(a) of silver 40/28, 43/35, 62/31;

(b) of pewter 40/35, 67/34, 191/30;

(c) of brass 191/31.

Such an expansion as *vesselles* 67/34 is therefore very doubtful.

apparell means a set (i) of hangings for an altar 38/14, 39/3; (ii) of harness for a horse; (iii) of gear for a plough 168/22.

It seems to be used collectively:

ij. apparell of white for the ij. auters 38/10.

The expansion *apparelles* 123/31 is very doubtful.

The word *other* is used collectively, and does not use the *-s* of plurality:

pray . . . for al othir 47/28.

with other that be lymtyed 62/16.

the said lord . . . present ij. other in semblable wise 78/8;

cf. 78/20.

amonges other 81/5 (persons).

and other beyng there present 119/4.

with other 155/21; with other moo 221/30.

all other contrary to . . . holy chirch 99/13 (opinions).

and oper 133/17 (persons).

to the ryngers and oper 157/28.

as many in nombre as the other 250/28.

The word *year* seems to be as often without, as with, plurality ending. We have:

ij. yere 120/29.

v. yer 122/7; *but* v. yeres 246/23.

vj. yere 74/18.

ix. yeere 74/12, 78/26.

xij. yeere 76/20, 78/31; *but* xij. yeris 68/19.

So also:

by no maner of meane 80/29; by other meayne 147/1;

but by any maner of means 168/29.

So also:

a hundrith marke 221/22.

Where a word is followed by several instances of its applications it may stand in the singular:

the parson of Somerethby, Erghum, and Stane 47/24.

the prior of Thyrnholm, of Elsted, of Newsted 52/19.

the kirke of Somerethby, Erghum, and Stayne 54/26.

Plurals are found where modern use prefers the singular:

at nedys 52/18, 26 = at need.

graynes and corne 191/25, 26.

This is found in the name of certain cloths:

Raynes 39/19, 22.

And furs:

a bed of ermynes 62/18.

gowne furred with matrons 43/2.

The spelling in one case probably disguises the plurality:

j. paire of *gardevyaunce*, 42/28, in the duplicate original (Chadworth's Register, lf. 85 bk.) appears as *gardeviens*, and is therefore probably plural of *gardevin* = a big-bellied wine-bottle.

Some cases of absence of plural ending are most easily explained by assuming a clerical error:

to almare 48/24 = two almars.

iiij. fetherbeddes with all thing longyng to them 162/21.

payr of coberd 161/15.

wryttyng 168/27.

Possessive Case Singular.

The ordinary form of the possessive ending for the singular was *es*, and the suggestion of the text is that it was often spoken as a distinct syllable:

of mannes age 51/27.

for my saule and my wyfys 54/2.

Several instances of it must be set aside because expansions of contractions in the MS.:

Pykringes wyff 44/6.

seruantes wifes 57/1.

In the following instances the syllabic feature seems to have disappeared. The apostrophe mark was not apparently in use.

Where it does occur in the text it is open to suspicion of being a transcriber's error.

my obit and my wiffs 47/29.

landes yat I haf of his modys 56/24.

The possessive ending is dropped, and possession is indicated by mere juxtaposition. These instances are too numerous to be due to mere clerical slips. As in the plural forms (*supra*, p. 304.), some of them may be explained by a desire to avoid a hissing sound, others by the difficulty felt with *-els*.

sent John hospitall 38/21, *but* Johns 40/10; Jones 38 note.

Jonet, Jacob wyff 43/3 = Jacob's.

at my moneth mynde 43/10.

our lady auter 48/16; *but* our ladyes awter 265/16.

John of Cumberworth doghtys 50/19.

my wiff xxx. day 54/34.

the tenement that was late Thomas Tanfelde, and now is

Richard Spragett 118/18.

seint katerin gwere 119/20.

kirk wark 120/2, 3, 6.

our lady werk 120/4, 231/3; our lady yle, 246/10.

our lady chapell 166/1.

his hole yere wages 124/35.

my housbond sowle 43/9.

boke of Dauid sauter 48/9 = David's.

William fitz William sowle 53/24.

for his brothyr sowle 53/25.

for my wyff saule 53/28.

my ffather and mother soules 159/20.

hyr father and mother soulles 232/5.

Thomas Clarell doughter 42/25.

Elizabet Richard Clarell wyff 42/32, 44/7.

the which were sumtyme Alianore hill 81/24, 82/23 = Hill's.

The form *his*, afterwards in such frequent use, appears in only a few instances:

Thomas Clarell his doughter 42 note (found in Chedworth's Register, lf. 85 bk.).

Pykeryng his wyff, *ibid.*

the other his parte 193/18 (1535).

the kynge his chappell, 250/11.

Anomalies occur, e. g. the plural ending attached to a possessive pronoun, by apposition with a noun in the possessive:

for my housbond sowle and myn oonys 43/9 = mine own.

Possessive Case Plural.

Here the case has to be gathered from the sense, the apostrophe mark not being yet in use:

after myn executours discrecion 40/34; after my executours discrecion 44/3; better expressed 41/2, after the discrecion of myn executours.

my gret boke . . . [th]at was the frerys 48/9 i. e. friars'.

my yereday and my auncestours 124/15.

Adjectives.

Adjective placed after the noun.

There are a considerable number of instances in which, contrary to modern use, the adjective follows the noun. Participles used as adjectives are treated in the same way. Some of these are clearly reproductions of old Law-Latin stock phrases.

ij. chaleys gilte 38/6; cp. 46/1.

a bolle pece new 38/27.

a reredose red 39/4.

j. paire of candelstykkes siluer 39/9; cp. 43/26.

towelles of Raynes playne 39/22.

surnapes of Raynes wrought 39/23.

j. cheyer coruen 39/24.

my tenauntz ease perpetuall 41/5.

j. sprever white 43/20; a yong palfray white 62/35.

a flat pece gilt vncovered 43/33.

ij. standing coppes covered 62/29; cp. 62/35.

gretyng in our lord everlasting 81/4 = salutem in domino sempiternam.

by the seruice dew and accustomed 118/21.

I make . . . my wyff my executrice alone 118/28.

sateyn figury 124/9.

effect ensuing 130/27.

a russett gowne furred 150/15.

the liffe naturall 144/11; *but* the naturall life 145/4.

issue lafull 164/24.

heyres successiue 165/1.

counsell lernede 227/17 (1539).

Adjective separated from its noun by a pronoun.

of this simple my last wille 118/32.

Adjective as well as noun with plural ending.

In certain stock phrases, the plural ending is attached not only to the noun but also to its adjective. There are, however, generally alternative forms of such phrases without plurality ending of the adjective, showing that the practice was going out of use.

heires males 82/24, 33; 83/8, 15, &c.

issue male3, 83/18: issue male3 83/19; *but* issew male 83/7; issue male 83/37.

prestes seculers 53/35; *but* seculer prestes 76/27.

freres mynours 117/27; freres prechiers 117/30; freres Carmys 117/32.

lettres patentes 129/10, 130/13.

Of kin to these is the anomalous form, 62/34, oon of the best & ij. meners = meaner ones.

Comparison of Adjectives.

More is used to form comparative of one-syllable adjectives: more sure 255/6.

The use of *most* to form the superlative is found, as in modern use, with adjectives of several syllables, e. g.

moste eternall 119/17.

moste habundaunt 130/9.

But also occasionally where *-est* would now be used:

moste poer 120/33; porest 157/17.

The superlative is used, anomalously, in comparison of two individuals: to the eldest of my ij. chyldryn . . . Item, to the yonger 155/8, 9.

the longiste lyver of . . . william and george 201/1.

Mention may be made of the forms uttrest = uttermost 69/3; mooste goodlieste 250/23; mooste worthieste 252/3; more fayrer, 253/4.

The Verb.

I bring together, under convenient heads, the chief points which arise in respect of verbs and their inflexions.

The Verb to-be.

Imperative: Be itt knowen 139/4.

Present tense singular.

he first person singular is *am* 43/35, 90/4, 97/16, &c.

The third person singular is, most frequently, *is*; e.g. 39/4, 40/6, 43/27, 79/5, &c.; but there is an alternative spelling viz. *es*; e.g. 46/34, 47/2, 52/2, 53/29, 31, 56/29, 32, 35 found in 1451.

Present tense plural: first person.

The modern form *are* occurs, with some variety of spelling :

we ar beholdyn 47/29.

war 54/2 = we are.

But the older forms survive (i) *been* (ii) *be*.

(i) after we been discessed 145/27.

we bene enformede 220/7 (1538).

(ii) we be beholdyn 53/29.

I . . . and I . . . be fully agreed 112/1, 2.

while we be on live 145/27.

Present tense plural: third person.

The modern *are* is found, with some variety of spelling :

all other necessarijs that ar nayled 41/26.

my fader and modyr ar bered 54/1.

godes . . . whilk ar not vthirwisse disposid 56/13.

t[w]o almar . . . whilke er ordand for kepying of vestmentes 48/24.

wrytinges . . . ar subscribed 196/3.

many . . . ar permytted 196/25.

william and george ar . . . bounden 202/7.

The archaic *been* still survives to some extent :

spones that ben here 39/11.

myn executours that been in this contre 41/29 [but *be* in the duplicate copy : see 40 note].

youre saide Oratours been greuously vexed 130/7.

suche legaces as ben expressyd 162/1.

commodities which bene reputed 240/1 (1544).

But the form most in use is the clipped form in which the verbal stem is without plurality mark :

the remenaunt; . . . that be here 42/8.

ther be iij. depe disshis 44/5.

those persones the which be bounden 62/10.

the persones that bee of that thair opinion 97/25.

after my debtes be payd 156/4, 193/14.

charges . . . what so ever they be 177/15.

Anomalies are found :

as they es deuyded 47/17.

It is sometimes a moot point whether this part of the verb is indicative or subjunctive : see *infra*.

Past tense singular.

Was is in regular use for first and third persons :

I was examined 97/12.

where as I was boren 160/18.

ouere lorde was skowrged 46/33.

Past tense plural.

Were is in regular use for third person :

other matiers that wer betwene hem 61/25.

landis . . . that were 82/23.

such goodes . . . as were bequethed 156/21.

Anomalies occur :

conventicles was maad 97/9.

iiijth. wiche . . . was delivered vnto me 232/31.

was hadde oute . . . vj. . . personnes 252/8 : cp. 252/11.

Subjunctive.

There was in this period much sensitiveness to the existence of the subjunctive mood, though, from the disuse of inflexions, it is often difficult to say positively that a form is certainly subjunctive and not indicative.

The following are some of the subjunctival elements :

(i) suppositions, e. g. clauses introduced by *if*.

(ii) potentialities, e. g. clauses which would now be expressed by the auxiliaries *may*, *shall*, &c.

(iii) intentions: e. g. clauses following after *I will that*, *I order that*, &c. Very often *that* is not verbally expressed. In modern use, an auxiliary, as *shall*, is used.

(iv) indirect speech; e. g. clauses following on *I say that*, &c.

(v) in simple relative clauses: e. g.

brethern which be bounde 259/13.

children which be willing 267/13.

Present Subjunctive.

The form for all persons of both numbers is *be*. It will be sufficient to give only one or two examples under each of the above heads.

(i) *suppositions*:

if she be married 74/6.

onlesse thanne they be absent 77/26.

if bothe be not so absent 77/27.

my elther feoffes, if ther any bee 80/30.

withoute youre . . . grace . . . be shewed 130/10.

if it be thought 261/15.

(ii) *potentialities*:

as towching my horses that be here at the day of my departing 41/33.

in such forme that hit be 76/30.

all my childer that be lyvyng 122/23.

vnto the tyme that they be att lawfull yeres of discrecion 138/12.

enacted . . . that it be lafull 255/12: cp. 256/10.

bi whom so euer . . . it be forfeited 259/7.

if it be thought . . . that he be of . . . discrecion 261/16.

(iii) *intentions*:

I wil it be expounid 57/6.

I wil that al my horsys be keptid 57/16.

I . . . wol . . . that . . . Iohn . . . and Richard . . . be saued 61/21.

I will that all the bokes . . . be distrybute 134/4.

I will that my mortuary be paied 139/23.

(iv) *indirect speech*:

I am enformed that some . . . persones there be 196/19.

Past subjunctive.

The form for all persons of both numbers is presumably *were*, but examples, in the deeds, are very few.

I wold my howsald wer holdyn forth 56/3.

till the mater of variaunce . . . were determynede 220/6
(1538).

were he neuer soo noble 251/25.

Present participle.

This is used in various idiomatic ways, and in inverted order.

(i) present participle, equivalent to *who are, which are* :

to the other v. servauntes beyng at Grysby 58/31.

all the lightes beyng in the same church 64/14.

(ii) present participle, equivalent to a clause following *if* :

to the parson . . . beyng present 118/6 = if he be.

(iii) present participle at the end of its clause and separated
by that clause from its noun :

Richard Archer, of good mynde and memory beyng 64/5.

hoole of mynde and in good remembraunce beinge 137/1.

Past participle.

There are some instances of the clipt form *be* (= been) :

I haue bee present 97/6.

opinions haue bee taught 97/7.

in whom my trust . . . hath be all way 118/30.

it hath be agreed 257/15.

Verb to-be used impersonally.

Subjunctive.

if so be 57/9, 19.

iff soo be that 156/14.

in case be that thei come 77/7.

Verb to-give : and its compounds.

The forms of this verb are of interest phonetically as showing
the hesitancy between (i) *g* and *y* (*supra*, p. 276), and (ii) *f* and
v (*supra*, p. 276).

I bring them into as short compass as may be.

Infinitive : I shal gif 97/29 ; I shall.giff 112/5.

I shal yef 97/27, 28, 111/8.

Imperative : giff it 45/11 ; yiff yam gette bedes 50/13.

Indicative present : I gif 45/13.

I giff 45/23, 46/1, 118/14 ; I gyff 45/5.

I yeff 118/11.

Indicative past :

my lord Bedford gafē me 42 note (Chedworth Register
lf. 85 bk.)

I yaf . . . faith 97/7.

Crist yaff Cayme 69/9.

my lord of Bedford yave me 42/31.

Present participle.

giffing 123/35 ; gevyng 264/12.

Past participle.

giffen 86/6, 120/32, 124/13.

gyfen 47/9.

gyfyn 48/26, 50/19, 54/6, 57/3.

gyfyne 54/12.

gyuyne 47/22.

gywyne 47/25.

yeuen 64/24, 75/27, 80/26, 133/5, 220/9, 15.

yeven. 99/3, 111/4, 221/9, 238/17.

yiffen 84/25.

yoven 202/13.

Infinitive :

to forgife 130/14.

to forgiff 46/14, 128/13.

Past participle :

forgiffyfe 46/10.

forgyfyn 28.

Verb to-do.

In these deeds, this verb presents itself in two aspects :

(a) It is a verb by itself, expressing action or making. Its forms, as a verb in its own right, had better come with the corresponding forms of other verbs (*infra*, pp. 318 sqq.).

(b) It is a feeble expletive, used in a foolish periphrastic conjugation of the present and past tenses of ordinary verbs, both in the indicative and in the subjunctive. In this form, it barely appears in the first set of these deeds, but is very frequent in the second. A condensed series of its occurrence may be given here, as supplying a sort of bird's-eye-view of the change from the more manly earlier period.

Present tense of to-do (expletive).

- (1456) I woll that . . . myn executours do perfourme my testament 89/13.
- (1529) if eny of them . . . doo disturbe 145/7.
- (1529) I will that my . . . feoffes doo suffre 137/26.
- (1529) as . . . dothe . . . appere 137/18.
- (1529) in case . . . his heires . . . doo not paye the said rentes 144/28, or doo lett 144/32, or doo vexe 144/35.
- (1533) I doo make my . . . will 152/16, 181/7, and *passim*.
- (1533) I do geue 151/19; I do give 153/9, 12; 156/22; and *passim* in the bequest formula.
- (1533) iff my wiffe doo mary 154/13, 159/7.
- (1533) iff all the childer doo departe 154/16.
- (1533) iff soo be that . . . my childern doo dye 156/14.
- (1533) money whiche dothe remayn in a bagge 153/30.
- (1533) soo that she doo kepe my childern 156/23.
- (1533) my executors . . . do performe hit 162/4.
- (1534) in . . . fforme as hereafter doth ffolowe 175/23.
- (1535) I do ordeyn (*or* do ordre) and make my executours 180/12, 183/18, 184/11, 193/23, and *passim*.
- (1535) I doo bequethe 182/22.
- (1535) if soe be that the above named . . . doe fortune to departe 182/24.
- (1535) I . . . doo sende 195/1.
- (1535) where they doo appere 195/11.
- (1536) them that dothe preache 196/32.
- (1536) curates that dothe admytte 196/34.
- (1536) they doo come 197/7; they doo vse 197/8.
- (1536) every oon dothe vse 197/12.
- (1536) dothe demyse 197/26, 234/2, and *passim* in leases.
- (1536) hym that ffirste dothe soo decease 200/8, 16.
- (1536) hym that dothe soo survyve 200/11.
- (1536) doo . . . content and paye 201/25, 32, &c.
- (1536) dothe covenante 204/12, and *passim* in leases.
- (1536) do not therby offende 205/5.
- (1536) I . . . doo here promysse 210/7; I doo signe 210/13.
- (1537) men . . . doo . . . vse 217/16.

- (1537) iudges . . . do not vse 218/16, 219/10.
 (1537) do ringe . . . doo commaunde 218/23, 24.
 (1538) doo singe 223/5.
 (1540) so longe as the money doth laste 232/7.
 (1540) do take a generall quyttance 232/24.
 (1540) I do owe 232/30.

Past tense.

Of the past tense of the verb used as an expletive, there is no example in the first period of these deeds and singularly few in the second period.

- (1509) he dyd awe, 28.
 (1533) my selfe dyd bye 158/22.
 (1536) if ye didde knowe 196/15.

Subjunctive.

I wol that the covent . . . do syng a dirige 121/21.

*Verb to-will.**Present tense.*

This verb is found with several meanings, of which there may be taken here.

(A) *to-will* means to give consent to a thing, to be willing to act in a prescribed way.

(B) *to-will* means to order to be done in a certain way, to give definite directions (especially in a testamentary deed).

(C) *to-will* implies simple futurity.

In each of these meanings, the verb is found in two typical spellings (see note at top of p. 37):

- (i) will, wyll, wil, wyl, wille, wyll.
 (ii) woll, wolle, wol, &c.

It may be convenient to bring together some typical instances of these uses and spellings.

(A) to be willing to, to desire to.

(i) form *will* :

if so be at yai will bide and will be rewlið 57/20.

in case that . . . any of my childer . . . wille not thryve
 124/11.

ryngers . . . that wyll come 157/28.

yf he wyll play ye honest man 232/34.

iff . . . the . . . wardence . . . will sele 265/26.

(ii) form *wol* :

I charge al my . . . executours that thei wol perfourme
this 69/6.

prestis that wol say masse 77/13.

if my wyff wol not dwelle 122/19.

so that he wol thryve and be vertuously disposed 122/28.

if my eldist sone wol by any parte 123/34.

giffen to him that wol thryve 124/13.

as ye woll eschue 221/8.

(B) to order :

(especially to order by testament)

We . . . woll and chardge you 221/3.

(i) form *will* :

I will my body ly still 45/8.

I will . . . that my dettys be qwyte 46/2.

I will the kirk of Stayn haue 47/1.

I wil yt Iohn Tailbusse haf 55/33 ; cp. 56/11, 57/8.

I wyl my kyste be made 45/11.

(ii) form *woll* :

I woll 40/7, 62/15, 77/32, 89/12, 90/2.

I wol 40/32, 35 ; 41/7, 42/1, 44/2, 61/19, 26, 31 ; 62/6,
63/1, 64/10, 72/10, 73/1, 74/8, 75/9, 76/18, 77/9,
78/14, 80/30, 81/16, 90/4, 120/16, 121/3, 122/1,
123/3, 124/1.

I wull that ther be yerely 261/31.

(C) futurity (= shall).

(i) form *will* :

If any example occurs, I have failed to notice it.

(ii) form *woll* :

as he wol answeere before god 69/1 ; cp. 63/9.

as thei wol answer to god 75/13.

Past tense.

The same differences of meaning, and similar differences of spelling, are found in the past tense.

(A) to be willing :

I . . . wold never utter 97/11.

(B) (a) to be desirous :—

as who wolde saye 252/5.

(b) to direct by testament :

I willed 76/6.

I wyllid 78/25.

Verb would.

The form *would* is used also in a frequent optative sense which makes it in meaning a new verb. In this sense I wold = I could wish, I look forward to and hope to see.

I wold my howsald were holdyn forth 56/3.

as thei wold I dyd for theym 58/35.

Verb : Imperative.

Pleasith itt you to be aduertised 249/3.

Verb : Present Indicative Singular.

Termination of third person in -eth.

The *-eth* termination is still the prevalent form. I bring together, therefore, a few of the numerous instances in which it occurs :

thapparell that longith 38/14, 41/22.

j. paire of fustyance that lyeth 41/12.

j. copborde that standith 41/19.

he that kepith hem 41/36.

he hath receyved 63/6.

as him semeth best 64/20.

this lettre . . . berith witness 65/3.

god hathe called vs 73/20 ; god hath yeuen them 80/26.

the money that commyth 89/23, 122/4.

hym that so sweth 112/18.

as long as my lyff lastith 113/8, 114/4.

my bay fole that goth 120/7 ; goeth 138/12.

money that Breknok owith 121/6.

when it fallith 122/32 ; fallyth 123/4.

my lord of wynchester hath 123/6.

when he commyth 123/8.

his brother that hath halsted 124/2.

when he laboreth 124/30.

Thomas Wortley . . . doth this his penance 127/34.

he . . . prayeth all yow people 128/14.

as he thynkyth 185/18 ; cp. 261/29.

Anomalous use of -eth ending of third person singular.

In the second period, there are some instances in which the third personal ending is used with pronoun of the first person :

I . . . hath giuen 139/30 (1433): the error is perhaps due to the intrusion (in apposition to *I*) of *Ser John Digby*.

I . . . maketh 191/7 (1535): here also a name, in apposition, comes between pronoun and verb.

Termination of Third Person Singular in -s.

The ending *-s* for the third person singular is well established throughout the whole of this period. Some examples must be set aside, as being expansions of contractions, e.g. *helpes*, 53/7.

is: see *supra*, p. 310.

to hym that fillis my grave 45/12.

evere man that has fee 46/26.

the box . . . that hingys 50/24.

ilke clerk . . . that helpys to syng or sais 52/14, 22, 23.

ilke pore man that comes 53/8.

the prest yt kepys the cure 54/7, 30.

in maner that folows 119/16.

a woman that lyes 136/12.

Anomalous use of -s ending of third person singular :

whar it suffys not 55/6=suffices: ending perhaps dropped to avoid sibilance.

Third person singular without ending.

This particular instance is probably due to an accidental omission of the first personal pronoun before the name,

cp. 'I, the same William lord lovell, . . . have' 81/5 with
'William lord lovell Burnell and of holand send gretyng'
81/3.

*Verb: Present Indicative: Third Person Plural.**(i) ending -s.*

It is possible that there is one survival of this northern dialect form, in that deed of 1451 which contains so many other northern forms and words.

iiij. hynys y^t dryfys the plogh 55/30.

(ii) ending *-en*.

There are survivals of the midland dialect *-en* plurality ending. Alongside of some of them are examples of the modern form without plurality mark, or of the northern *-eth* ending.

the new mattes that lyen 41/14: *but* lye 41 note.

xij. qwysshens that longen 41/23: *but* longyth 41 note.

sommes that folowen 78/34.

(iii) ending *-eth*.

This northern dialect form continues right on into the second period, though instances of its occurrence in the first period are few. It is to be noticed, however, that it actually occurs only in legal formulae, in which words and combinations of words were repeated parrot-like from a set form, with no feeling of correct grammar.

mekely bisecheth . . . your . . . oratours 129/2 (1464).

controversy varyance and debate hath been movyd 175/3 (1534).

we . . . hath putt herevnto owre seales 178/3.

thabbot and covent . . . hath graunted 132/2, 10, 15, 31 (1509).

the forsaid abbott and covent . . . byndeth them 132/32 (1509).

lande, the which Coke and Penley now occupieth and holdith 167/20 (1534).

William and george couenauntyth and graunteth 199/3 (1536); cp. 225/6.

the parties . . . haithe . . . putt there seales 212/5 (1537).

his saide tenauntes claymeth 221/1 (1538).

rector, fealowes and scolers . . . dothe demyse 225/6 (1539).

the said parties standethe bounden 229/33 (1539).

whiche obligacions bearithe date 229/35.

first fructes . . . comethe 241/23: in an *anacolouthon*.

Antichristes . . . oppugneth 249/6.

wheroff lyeth . . . xvij. acres 268/15.

This *-eth* form is especially in use with the indeclinable pronoun *that* (*supra*, p. 296). Assuming that the *-eth* form was practically obsolete, the explanation of this particular frequency may be (i) in some cases, the feeling that this pronoun was really

singular caused the verb attached to it to disregard its preceding plural antecedent; and (ii) in other cases, *ad sensum* concords with the nearer of two members of a component antecedent, as is found in Latin. I give the examples, and put forward my two guesses at explanation of them for the mere guesses they are:

in the maner and fourme that folowith 72/4.

any that holdeth heresies 111/9.

persones . . . that dothe to the contrary 196/20; and dothe treate 196/21.

names of them that doth preache 196/32.

curates that dothe admytte 196/34.

holydayes that fallethe 226/28.

So also with *as*:

doubtes as dothe . . . gendre . . . dissencion 196/22.

all suche as hathe transgressed 196/31.

all suche as settithe forthe 196/36.

So also with the indeclinable pronoun *which*:

all other chardgies whiche of olde tyme hathe bene due 199/13.

(iv) *Standard form without inflexion.*

From first to last there are examples of the modern third plural, in which the verbal stem is used without any inflexion:

all the costres that longe 39/13 (1450).

all men that come 52/16.

the pore men that hold yam 52/29.

Verb: Past Indicative.

The forms for past tense differ little from those now in use.

Was: see p. 311. *Were*: see p. 311. *Gave*, &c.: see p. 313.

(i) *Forms in -ed.*

bedys . . . yt I oft wered 49/2 = wore.

(ii) *Forms originally in -ed, but slightly modified.*

I boght 49/29; I bought 63/2; that bought 72/6.

they promyst me 48/21.

I dyd 58/35.

I sent 196/8.

(iii) *Forms obtained by modifying vowel.*

bare 251/13.
 the manoir cam 68/21.
 forsoke 99/11.
 forswore 99/12.
 stode 252/1, 2.
 toke 99/10.

Verb: Subjunctive Forms.

As stated above (p. 311), the subjunctive at this period had a much wider range than it has now. The absence in it of any inflexional form occasionally reveals its presence. We may therefore pick out a few typical instances, arranged under the heads which seemed to assert themselves in the verb *to-be*.

(i) *Suppositions.*

if yer come anothir abbot 52/7; cp. 52/35.
 if any thyng fal in trawers 57/5.
 in case that Iohn haue Halsted 123/21.
 yf yt fortune yt god take 231/32; tayke 232/1.
 if he lyve 261/14.

(ii) *Potentialities.*

a mortuary as law will 45/15 = may will.
 when he comme at his playne age 123/26; contrast 123/8.
 decesse or [= before] he come 261/20.

(iii) *Intentions.*

I will that my lord Cardenal of yorke haue a pare bedys 46/17.
 I will my lord Cromwell haue a pare bedys 46/23; cp. 267/21.
 I wol that Richard my sone haue my saltcote 123/19.
 to this intent that they yerely kepte for me (1517) 265/21,
 in error for *keep*.
 I wyll yt all my lande remayne 231/37 (1540).

(iv) *Indirect speech.*

as who wolde saye that they shulde nott nede to feare that 252/5.

Present Participle.

There is only one instance of the *-ende* form, and that not from the documents themselves :

ryngynd, 27 (1507).

There are doubtful examples of the dropping of the last letter of the ending :

on fowldyn tabylle 135/7, 20; but 'fowlden' is possibly 'folded', not 'folding'.

in not taken the oportunytye 217/11 (1537).

The most noticeable thing about the present participle is the freedom with which it is used in absolute clauses :

berying wittenesse herof 80/34.

Verb : Forms of Past Participle.

In these documents, archaic forms have almost disappeared, even in the earlier set of deeds. The few that remain deserve record. Those which have continued into modern use may be very briefly recorded.

(i) Archaic form with ge- prefix.

One example (1459),

my place . . . I-sett betwene 118/16.

(ii) Form -en.

Of this there are numerous examples, with, in several cases, alternative forms which drop the *-n* element. Nearly all participles of this form are still in regular use, if not in ordinary speech or writing, at least in conventional phrases. I put those examples which I have noted into alphabetical order, occasionally recording variant spellings. Duplicates of the *-ed* form are, of course, found :

bear : boren 160/18, 205/29.

been : see *supra*, p. 313.

beget : past part. *begotten*. In one and the same deed, 1455, this appears in a singular variety of spellings—*begeten* 74/21, 83/17; *begeton* 74/28, 82/31; *begetyn* 83/28; *begoten* 74/15, 89/18.

beholdyn : by origin, past part. of verb *to-behold* : by meaning, = in duty bound (to act in a certain way) : 47/29, 56/21.

bequeath : past part. *bequethen* (1454) 64/17, (1465) 123/10.

bind: past part. now *bound*: bounden 62/10, 201/16, 202/7, 229/33; bownden 61/22.

break: broken 135/33; brokyn 135/34.

carve: past part., *carved*: cornen 39/24.

do: past part. *done*: done 57/17; don 72/11, 120/18; doon 64/18, 120/16, 128/14; doyn 47/31.

But the clipt form is also in use:

to be do 84/12; to be doo 82/28, 85/19.

get: past part. now *got*: gettyn 53/31; getyn 54/5; gotten 124/23, 258/16.

give: *supra*, p. 313.

grow: growen 217/2.

hold: past part. now *held*, but formerly *holden*: holden 97/1, 129/17; holdyn 46/12.

know (or, in other dialectical form, *knaw*): past part. in standard use *known*, in Scots *knawn*: knowen 116/2, 181/4; knawen 46/4.

let: letten 171/10, 186/9, 198/3, 268/7.

smite: smytten 44/2.

strike: stryken 130/5.

swear: sworn 97/10.

take: taken 63/4, 132/7.

throw (in form *thraw*): thrawyn 134/27; thrawn 135/6, 7.

write: written 38/3, 41/30; writtyn 48/26; writte 69/12.

As is noticed in the case of several of the above *-en* past participles, that ending tends to be dropped. The following other instances may be recorded:

that she be well see to 42/4.

manerly drawe 262/7 drawn (? brought up).

(iii) Form *-ed*.

* In some few cases, verbs have past participles of this form which in modern English are of different form. The most usual cause of the difference is that the syllabic *-ed* was afterwards shortened to a single letter. In many instances, alternative forms are found in which the *-d* ending is dropped.

apply: applied 158/12.

bequeath: bequethyd 134/11, 13; beqwethed 124/11; vnbequestyd 168/20.

boarden: bordenyd 134/19, 21, 25; 135/10.

buy: boght 57/12.

carve: carved 135/6; carvyd 135/5.

complete: completede 237/21; complete 208/3; complete 225/23.

convict: conuicted 78/17.

except: exceptyd 158/24; except 158/14 (1533); except afore except 74/32 (1455), 75/5.

garnish: garnyshyd 135/11.

grave: graved 169/6.

hear: harde 174/6.

keep: kepid 57/16; kept 83/15; kepte 182/10; *but* kepe 169/30 (1534).

lay: leide, 123/26, 124/17.

leave: lefte 41/17; lefte 41/8, 62/19.

let: letted 80/28.

order: orderyd 158/27 (1533).

sell: selld 40 note; solde 40/30, 57/11; soald 232/4.

spend: spendid 42/9 = spent; vnsponded 182/27.

use: vsid 158/36 (1533).

wed: wedded 88/4.

work: wroght 39/23; wrought 40/13.

Of the instances in which this *-ed* ending has been dropped, the following may also be cited:

abrogate 218/21 (1537).

I wil it be amend 46/5, amended.

bequest 134/6, bequested.

conuicte 256/2, 264/2.

directe 130/4.

distrybute 134/4.

institute 217/21 (1537).

I wyll that ther be an obit kepe 169/30, kept.

wher they think it ned 46/16 needed.

(iv) *Past Participle by modification of vowel.*

find: fownde 121/39; but there is a longer form with both change of vowel and added ending, *ffounden* 206/10 (1536).

set: sot 257/38.

sing: song 160/10, 16, 251/35.

- (v) *Past Participle without obvious change, inflexional element having long disappeared.*

besett 41/3.

cut 57/3; *cute* 57/1.

put 52/18; *putt* 52/26.

When two or more participles are used together, e. g. in the tedious iteration of legal formulae, there is a manifest tendency to clip the ending of one or other of them:

hath deuysed graunted and to fferme lett 197/25 = *letten*.
to be fully complet and ended 198/13 = *completed*.

content satisfyed and payd 208/34; *but contented and paid* 234/30, 237/34.

celebrate and kept 217/28 (1537).

assembled and congregate 217/25 (1537).

Syntax.

In what has gone before, some points of syntax as they present themselves in these documents have been touched on in their more immediate connexions.

Thus: with pronouns, 290-4, 296-8, 300; with adjectives, 309; with *to-be* 311; with verbal inflexions, 311, 318, 319.

Some anomalous forms are specially referred to in the notes to the places where they occur:

50/16 and note 6, 68/13 and note 5, 189/25, 190/2, 217/4.

Here may be brought together some other points of like sort.

49/15 must be eked out: I will [that] he, in the same [way], have.

182/26, 27: here there is a distinct *anacolouthon* of a Thucydidean type. The sentence ought to have run 'All suche money that may be', or 'all suche money as may happen to be', but it stands without grammatical support 'all such money . . . to be vnsuspended'.

Latin order.

Although these documents are largely of a legal character, and therefore based on Law-Latin precedents, they are remarkably free from Latin influence in their sequence of words. The writers have a firm grip of English, not only word by word, but in respect of the sequence in which words must follow each other in an uninflected language.

Some few exceptions in the case of adjective and noun have been given *supra*, p. 308.

There are also examples of participles treated in the same way:

beyng: *supra*, p. 312.

the mony therof commyng 62/25 = *inde proveniens*.

the terme of vi. yere next after my decesse determined
74/13, 19; 78/26.

under forme in my said testament conteyned 78/29.

Slight examples of retention of Latin order (subject, object, verb) are:

To all . . . people that this present wryting . . . shall heere
or see 81/1.

my childer to whom anything I haue beqwethed to 124/11.
of the wiche I wyll that xx^{li} therof she shall pay 168/17.
and that my executors no thyng retayne to there owne vse
169/24.

Double Negative.

not neither nor 40/29.

nor travers not 49/13.

not . . . nor in noo wyse 78/30.

in no wise . . . nor . . . by no maner 80/28.

no nor noon 83/9.

no nor noon nor of no 83/20-2, 85/35-7.

nor noon other 97/24.

not . . . ne to no man 113/2, 22; 244/2.

nor to haue no more 122/14.

nor be no prest 122/33.

This usage continues on into the second period:

In case . . . Iohn digby . . . doo not paye . . . nor doo nott
acquitte 144/28 (1529).

my feoffees shall nott give my sone . . . noo state in my
house 183/28 (1535).

the . . . scholers . . . nor noo inhabytauntes within the saide
colledge shall paye . . . any maner of tuythes . . . to noo
maner of persons 227/29 (1539).

requyringe nor demaundinge nothinge 229/4.

An example of approach to modern practice is found in 1536.

itt shall not be lafull unto . . . william and george, nor to
ether of them . . . to fell . . . eny tre 199/32.

Another example is found in 1538, but here, in strict construction, either *neither* should be *not*, or else *or* should be *nor*.

Chardginge you neither to doo or attempte . . . anything
contrarye to our . . . commaundemente 220/11.

Syntax of the infinitive.

In pure English the infinitive by itself expressed purpose or intention. In English, as influenced by Norman-French *pour*, the preposition *for* was frequently set before the infinitive when purpose or intention was implied. The two forms are often found in the same deed.

Bare infinitive.

that is to say 38/13.

peces to be departed 38/20.

he to leve it 49/5.

all thay to pray for me 49/27.

I will he hafe a nobyll to pray for me 52/7.

I will that . . . corne be solde . . . to pay my dettes 58/2.

my body to be buried 64/8.

to gretham, to be delte amonge poore people 231/8 (1540).

Infinitive preceded by for.

that is for to say 38/7.

j. chafr for to heete watir inne 40/26.

remanent3 for to be departed 41/1; cp. 42/19.

freris . . . for to say 43/8; he for to saye 223/13.

my body for to be buried 57/25.

x. quartiers for to be devided 58/2.

be myne executours for to dispose 58/34.

to be delynered . . . for to perfourme 62/4.

executours . . . for to execute 62/17.

I giff . . . to Iohn . . . for to dispose 64/20.

nor doo for to be letted 80/28.

to thentent for to deceue 116/3.

the abbot for to haue 122/2.

he for to haue it 124/6: cp. 124/30; 223/8.
 to haue . . . for to call 169/23.
 licence . . . for to singe 223/10.
 for to dispose them 223/24.
 now beinge alyve or for to come 229/34.
 for to be gyven 231/6 (1540).
 for to be chaste 244/8, 245/22.

Infinitive dependent on infinitive.

to see . . . my . . . wyll . . . to be performyd 164/17.

Defective Syntax.

There are two main types of irregular syntax, which require separate notice.

Irregular syntax after conjunction that.

Here, after *that*, the verb ought to be finite (indicative or subjunctive). This correct form is found:

I will that all my . . . tenementes maye be equally deuyded
 137/36.

Or, otherwise, *that* ought not to have been used, and the infinitive ought to have attached itself to the verb in the principal clause.

By a singular halting between these two syntax-possibilities an odd anomalous construction is frequently arrived at:

I wol . . . ouer that, that euery prest of them to say a masse
 120/24; cp. 121/13.

I wol . . . that then his parte to be taken fro him 124/13.

I wol . . . that then the saide plate by them to be sold
 124/21.

I wol . . . that then my plate to be deuyded 124/24.

then I will that all the . . . tenementes to be equally
 deuyded 137/33.

I wille that echone of them to be the others heyre 138/18.

I will that the saide goodes . . . to be bestowed 138/22.

There are some singular combinations of both constructions:

I will . . . that ther be a chauntry founded . . . and he to
 graunte the . . . patronage 261/23, 24, 28; cp. 265/21,
 24.

The second set of irregular constructions is found in the case of the impersonal verbs *it fortunes, it happens*.

Here, the correct construction would have been to carry on the impersonal verb by a clause introduced by *that* (expressed or understood). Such a correct construction seems to be found:

iff itt fortune the sayd rent . . . be behynd unpayd 211/29.

Otherwise, a correct construction might have been had by avoiding the impersonal use of the verb:

if . . . Richard . . . fortune to dye 201/31.

Frequently, however, an irregular combination of the impersonal verb and *that* with the infinitive is used (cp. p. 329), or of the impersonal verb and the infinitive:

if itt happen the . . . rent . . . to be behynde 172/2,
208/26, 235/5, 240/27.

if itt fortune . . . the . . . rent . . . to be behynd 172/16,
211/21, 229/12, 240/35.

if it fortune the said William to dye 187/34: cp. 200/5;
to decease 200/26:

There are other irregularities, due probably to mere carelessness.

All whiche shal be kept holy . . . as in tyme past haue been
accostomed, 218/18. Here *they* should precede *have*.

Note may also be made of:

If . . . Clemens . . . hynder that this my last will may not
be truely executed 168/29.

Vpon a certayne somme of mony to be graunted 256/30.

Double or multiple equivalents.

A singular feature of the English of these documents—dating back to the time when persons who attempted to write English were much more familiar with Latin than with English, and therefore shrank from adventuring an English word unaccompanied by a Latin word to back it up—is the extraordinary number of doublets, triplets, and multiples which are found in it. These passed into the shibboleth of English law, and, accordingly, abound and over-abound in these documents.

I give here a sufficient number of examples to show the almost ludicrous persistence of this trick of the language:

abiure and forswer 111/7.

annuetes, yerely rentis 61/27.

assembled and gadred 127/33.
assistent and helper 118/31.
beeldid and performed 76/37, 77/23.
behote and make avowe 113/3, 23.
charging and commaunding 130/18.
confessed and knowliched 99/8, 115/2.
confession and knowlidge 96/4.
declared and confessed 97/14.
defaute and trespasse 128/10.
exercised and vsed 111/5.
exilite and pouerte 129/7.
faith & truste 75/20, 81/6.
fraunchese and fredom 62/7.
under the forme and conditions 82/25, 85/17.
fourme and tenour 61/29, 62/2.
had and borne 73/28.
to haue and hold 74/20; 118/19.
haue and rejoise 61/28, 32.
help and assiste 80/25.
helpyng and assystyng 75/13, 83/4, 85/28.
heresies and errours 111/7.
interupcion and hurt 62/13.
issue3 and profutes 73/14, 76/22.
kepe and obserue 112/20.
make and ordeyn 118/27.
my maker and fourmer 117/14.
maner and fourme 72/3, 76/3, 82/16, 121/16.
noyanse and offense 128/6.
obserued and kept 83/14, 33.
occupie and haue 73/10, 76/14.
ordeyn and make 117/12.
I pray and require 83/4, 85/9.
prayng and requiring 75/20.
profyte ne awayle 129/19.
promitte and avowe 88/4.
require and charge 75/23.
sett and lyeng 166/38.
so and in suche fourme 76/30.
stabulished and fownded 74/35.

tenour and fourme 62/2.
 vse and profuet 74/24.
 vtter nor knowlage 97/11.
 testament and will 75/14, 76/5, 80/33.
 my wille and entent 82/15, 115/9.
 wille and testament 62/17, 76/17.
 to worschip and serue gode 47/11; *but* to worschip gode
 47/15.
 I woll and giff 68/7, 89/14.
 I wyll and geue 164/12.
 I woll and beqweth 78/23.
 I wol and declare 76/29.
 I wol and pray 61/19, 62/15.
 I wyllled and ordeyned 78/25.
 I yeff and beqweth 118/11.
 faith credence and beleve 97/8.
 fourme tenure and effecte 130/27.
 fraude gyle or deceyte 97/37.
 giff graunt and bequethe 118/14.
 ordeyned disposed and willed 76/6.
 pardon forgife and relesse 130/14.
 peyn and disciplyne and correccion 99/16.
 forsake, renounce, abiure and forswere 99/12.
 favour help socour assistance or counsel 97/27.
 ayde help favour nor svcour nor counsell 111/9.

In the Second Period.

accomplyshyd and endyde 204/5.
 acqyte and dischargd 199/16.
 admytte or suffre 196/34.
 advouson and giff 198/5.
 agreed and couenaunted 172/32.
 almes and charite 257/1.
 ample and lardge 207/17.
 apperteynyng and belongyng 172/31, 186/17, 203/20,
 226/6, 239/10.
 apoynte and make 233/6; appoynted and ordeyned 144/22.
 assembled and congregate 217/25.
 assent and consent 132/2, 186/6, 217/23, 225/4.

- assigne and appoynte 226/37.
assuraunce and sure makinge 227/18.
ayde and helpe 227/2; ayde and secure (= succour) 233/8.
beare and paye 226/16, 235/28.
beare and susteyne 204/13, 21.
behove and use 182/10.
behynde and not payde 187/26, 205/37.
belonginge or appertayninge 237/16, 239/25.
bequethe and give 182/22.
boren and susteyned 205/29.
buryall and funeralles 228/1.
bye and purchesse 158/22.
cam and resorted 206/21.
causes and maters 175/16.
celebrate and kept 217/28.
to cesse and be voyde 188/1.
chardgies and expenses 138/21.
commaunde or indicté 218/24.
commodityties and aduantageies 207/14.
commying and folowyng 171/26; commying and renewyng
175/9.
complett and ended 171/28, 198/13, 210/30, 234/18.
consent and agreement 189/15, 237/1.
consente and assent 175/21.
constitute and make 233/4.
content and paye 143/39, 201/33, 234/30.
contentacion and payment 200/14, 37.
contented and payd 235/14.
contradiccion or interruption 175/25, 177/3.
contraryetie and dissencion 196/22.
contynence and chastyte 210/11.
conuentyd and agreed 175/22.
costes and charges 187/7, 208/15.
coste and expenses 132/25.
couenaunted and agreed 172/28, 204/38.
couenaunte and graunte 173/2.
coveaunthith and grauntyth 187/5, 227/7.
creator, maker 151/13.
dependent and incidente to 175/16.

depute and assigne 230/2.
 direccion and commaundemente 220/8.
 dischardgede and acquytede 241/34.
 dispensed ne contracted 210/5.
 due and payable 200/15, 215/8.
 dueties and chardgies 226/16, 241/27.
 dyspose and order 232/13.
 ende and terme 171/27, 198/12, 204/3, 225/22.
 ensuyng and ffolowyng 171/28.
 escrippe or waste 205/17.
 estate and condicion 241/3.
 excepted and reserued 198/7.
 except and reserved 186/19, 203/21, 240/3.
 executng and performing 75/14, 76/20.
 executed and performed 168/30.
 execucion and performance 201/3.
 exercise and occupye 218/2.
 expediente and conuenyente 228/27.
 expell and putte oute 238/3.
 extincte and ceased 189/17.
 fall or occurre 218/8; false or wrongfull 256/9.
 ffeastes or holy dayes 218/7.
 ffell, cute downe 199/35.
 ffermors or tenauntes 176/27.
 ffirste and former 209/3.
 forme and maner 165/25.
 fyrme and stable 148/28.
 geue and bequeyeth 185/15.
 grounde and soille 205/3.
 hable & suffycyent 200/10.
 hadde and obteyned 199/39.
 haue and holde 209/2; haue and injoye 205/32.
 haue and possesse 261/34.
 heedes or seniours 195/14, 196/1.
 hold and occupye 211/26.
 holy and solempne 218/17.
 honestly and sufficiently 241/13.
 honor and worship 157/16.
 houses and buyldynges 199/21, 204/31.

- infirmytie and sekenes 226/31, 227/3.
inioye and occupye 173/5.
interrupte or let 168/28.
interrupcion or delaye 137/28.
iurisdiccion or authoritye 197/1.
kepe and mayntayn 168/5.
kept or observed 217/33, 218/11.
knowledge and recognise 189/28.
legacyes and bequestes 155/13.
leve and yelde vppe 199/26.
losse and decaye 256/25.
lycence and consent 199/37.
lyinge and beinge 237/7.
made and graved 169/5.
make and ordeyn 266/9, 267/23.
maner and forme 133/18.
manour and lordshippe 172/21.
mayntayne & justyfy 205/22.
mayntene and susteyne 199/21, 25.
meanynge and intent 201/20.
more and further 227/17.
mynystre and dispose 192/26.
name and fame 228/20.
namede and callede 225/34, 226/15; namyd and expressyd
158/25.
necessyte and behove 217/19.
next and immediately 204/4.
notyce and knowledge 196/13.
notifye and knowlege 153/5.
occupye and inioye 171/21, 173/9.
ordeyne and dispose 138/26.
ordeyn and make 147/29, 185/16.
ordre and disposicion 139/9, 147/31.
ordre and commaundemente 196/32.
ordre and make 179/27, 184/11.
parte or parcell 172/8, 237/33; parte or porcion 207/16.
partie and behalfe 205/20.
patronage and gyfte 234/10, 240/4.
yerely pension or annual rent 191/11.

perceive and receive 138/3.
 performyd and don 164/17.
 performed and executed 147/33; performed and kept
 200/21.
 permytte and suffer 173/4, 196/26.
 peryll and chardge 205/9.
 power and libertye 204/30.
 power and strenght 233/3.
 pray and desyre 233/6.
 promysse and make avowe 210/7.
 prouffite and commodytie 204/33, 237/15.
 punysh and chastice 255/13.
 purporte and effecte 201/8, 202/4.
 purvey and make to be had 258/15.
 put oute and expell 206/16, 241/2.
 reasons and groundes 189/22.
 remayne and come to 143/4.
 renounce and forsake 139/25.
 rente or fferme 172/1, 173/14.
 repare and amende 235/39.
 repayre and come to 186/26.
 requyrynge nor demaundinge 229/3.
 resydent and abydyng 203/27.
 resident or dwelling 218/1.
 right or title 175/27.
 sette and hadde 221/7.
 shewed and notyfyed 195/4.
 sone and spedili 256/27.
 soylle and grounde 204/34.
 stypend or wagies 145/34, 229/2.
 survivour and longer lyuer 200/6, 7.
 susteyne and bere 177/12.
 take and have 205/13.
 take and receue 190/1.
 treate and dispute 196/21.
 vse and behove 225/19.
 vsed or occupied 207/19.
 vse and practize 217/17.
 vse and prouffett 156/8.

vses and intentes 144/13.
vacacion and libertie 217/15.
vertue and power 202/10.
vexe or trouble 144/35, 168/28.
voide and of noon effecte 148/31, 168/32.
no wast nor spoyll 168/6.
well and suffyciently 204/36; well and truly 201/25.
I will and bequethe 192/20; I wyll and geue 164/22.
I woll and chardge 221/3.
will and pleasour 204/32.
withdrawen and taken away 205/28.
withhold and kepe 235/12.
worke or occupacion 218/12.
yeldyng and payng 171/30, 204/6, 211/1, 225/24.
accyons sewttes and plays 205/23.
acquite dischardge or saue harmeles 144/3.
allter and chaunge and transforme 204/30.
bargayned accorded and covenanted 257/21.
bere content and paye 199/10.
buyldre repayre and mayntayne 177/8.
commyng growyng and renewyng 175/29, 176/5.
commodityes ryalties and advantagyes 171/19.
content satisfyed and payd 208/34.
contentyd satisfyed and payd 211/27.
controversy varyance and debate 175/3.
costes chardgies and expenses 226/7.
counted accepted and taken for 218/28.
covenanted grauntes and agrementes 200/19.
decreed ordeyned and establisshed 217/26.
demyse graunte and to ferme lett 197/26.
discend happen or come 151/25.
enacted ordeyned and stablISHED 255/9.
enioye perceve and take 175/27, 176/16.
expell amove and put oute 209/4.
expell put forthe and remoue away 212/2.
expenses labours and charges 175/19.
expulse putt oute and dischardge 172/25.
eye ouersight and inquirye 196/29.
ffalling chaunsyng or renewyng 176/33.

given and graunted and confirmed 140/1.
 graunteth demyseth and to fferme letteth 171/11.
 groundes reasons and causes 189/13.
 growyng, commyng, or . . . renewyng 176/18.
 hadd vsed or occuppyed 207/19; haue holde and occupye
 210/25; haue take and perceue 175/34.
 iuridiccion powre and aucthoryte 189/10.
 lett or interrupcion or disturbacion 144/23.
 made rered and set vp 258/5.
 mayntayne kepe and supporte 187/22.
 meite necessary and conuenient 204/35.
 of to or vpon 256/9.
 pay supporte and maynteyn 211/17.
 perceyve take and enioye 176/4.
 pesable ffreelye and quyety 175/25.
 performed fulfilled and kept 201/7.
 preiudice nor noying ne harme 132/21.
 prouyde procure and gette 228/20.
 rentes charges and incumbrances 144/8.
 repayre amend and make tenauntable 187/9.
 repared maynteyned and susteyned 199/25.
 reuenues issues and prouffettes 145/19.
 satisfied contented and payd 172/14, 229/26.
 sett lyeng beyng 151/24, 225/9.
 spent occupied and employed 205/15.
 strenghe value or effecte 189/17.
 sufficyent hable and lafull 200/32.
 supporte maynteyn and beyre 211/9.
 sustayne beare and paye 241/31.
 temerouse presumptuose and vndiscrete 196/18.
 vyanage contention and debate 175/18.
 welth helth and profytt 151/10.
 worke occupacion or mysterye 218/2.
 acqyte discharge saue and kepe harmeles 187/17.
 amovede advoydede dischardgede and putte forthe 228/25.
 chirchwardens proctours rulers or governors 225/33.
 observe performe fulfill and kepe 173/18, 201/36, 202/3,
 229/29.
 paymentes, chardgies, exaccions or dueties 228/7.

repare vpholde mayntene and susteyne 199/21.
 reputedede taken acceptede or knowen 240/1.
 vexacion lett disturbaunce or impedymnt 173/9.
 kepe susteyne repayre mayntayne and vpholde 226/1.
 aggreed graunted couenaunted accorded and bargayned
 257/15.

Manner: Manner of.

Both constructions of *manner* are found throughout these documents, both in the earlier period and in the later, that with *of* being distinctly the more frequent.

Manner.

In the First Period :

all maner men 68/13.
 all almaner folk 118/25.

In the Second Period :

all maner chardgies 138/21.
 all maner other tithes 176/17.
 almaner rents, all maner tithes 186/13, 14.
 al maner vessell 191/30.
 all maner costes 211/10.
 any maner wise 258/22.
 all maner reparacions 267/3.
 all maner royaltie 269/1.

Manner of.

In the First Period :

al maner of vitayle 63/4.
 all maner of chargis 76/30.
 all maner of prestis 77/13.
 by no maner of meane 80/28.
 alle maner of heresies 111/7.
 all maner of matiers 112/3.

In the Second Period :

all maner of stuff 147/18, 235/35.
 any maner of means 168/29.
 all maner of chardgies 172/30, 226/16, 235/25.
 allmaner of tithes 176/4, 33.
 maner of wise 186/17, 207/15, 225/13, 246/6.

almaner of graynes 191/24.
 all maner of landes 203/15.
 all maner of reparacions 226/2, 235/31.
 any maner of tuythes 227/31.
 noo maner of persons 227/32.
 any maner of paymentes 228/6.
 all maner of portions 239/24.
 almaner of coste 258/3; cp. 258/18.

Pair: Pair of.

Throughout both the earlier and the later periods of these documents, examples of both constructions occur, that with *of* being somewhat the more frequent.

Pair.

a pare bedys 46/17, &c.; 49/19, &c.; 50/15 &c.
 j. paire blankettes 67/15.
 a pare schetes 56/35; j. paire shetys 67/32.

Pair of.

a pare off bedys 46/20.
 a pare of bedes 51/29.
 a paire of blankettes 40/21: cp. 40/4.
 j. paire of candelstykkes 39/9.
 a payr of coberd 161/15.
 a payre of indenturs 166/27.
 a litell payre of salt salers 39/8.
 j. payre of shetis 39/19, 160/20, 163/1, 192/7.
 a peyre of vestymentes 134/1.

Term: For term.

The phrase *for term of life* occurs occasionally:
 for terme of liff 85/21.

for terme of lyve 61/27, 84/17.

for terme of the liff 82/30, 85/23; cp. 261/35.

There are, however, several instances in which *for* is dropped out and the phrase *term of life* is used as an adverb of duration of time:

terme of his liffe 68/24.

terme of her lyff 89/37, 117/22.

the terme of her lyff 89/15; cp. 265/5.

That.

After certain verbs, the conjunction *that*, which should carry on the action of the verb to the clause following, is as often implied as expressed.

Constructions with that expressed :

I wol that al my pewtir vessell be departed 40/35.

I will . . . that my dettys be qwyte 46/2.

I wol that my goodis . . . be disposed 75/9.

I woll that myn executours giff 121/26.

Constructions with that implied :

I will he haf the whitte bede 49/7.

so he . . . help yam my will be performede 49/14 = them,
so that my will.

I will he hafe a nobyll to pray for me 52/7.

I will ij. of yam syng 53/35.

Owing, apparently, to the slipping of the *þ* symbol into easily discarded *y*, this conjunction appears in an aphetic guise:

I will at Will₃am . . . haf 55/20.

if so be at yai will bide 57/19.

die : decease : depart.

As regards the choice of words, probably the most singular set are those which come under the above heading. The simple words *die* and *death* occur throughout both periods frequently and continuously, but there is an obvious inclination to use euphemistic words of Latin origin.

*Verb.***(i) die.**

die 139/17.

dye 124/1, &c., 187/34, 193/17, 200/5, 201/31, 228/12.

(ii) decease.

hym that dothe soo decease 200/9; cp. 200/26.

decesse 137/31, 35; 138/17, 20; 261/20.

discessed 145/28.

The two words are, of course, combined :

dye or decesse 156/14.

decesse and dye 158/19.

(iii) *depart.*

There are some examples in which the full phrase is given :

depart the world 168/38.

departe oute of this worlde 182/24.

It is also used without qualifying words :

departe 155/12, 154/10, 161/20, 231/35.

Substantive.

(i) dede 53/30, 56/4 ; deth 120/18 ; dethe 61/24, 68/17,
69/5, 72/10, 142/21, 159/22.

(ii) deceasse 41/8, 73/11, 74/12, 76/16, 78/26, 82/17,
84/5, 85/10, 89/16, 90/1, 117/23, 121/26, 142/5,
143/3, 163/30, 200/8, 261/13, 262/1.

decese 231/31, 232/4.

deceasse 261/16.

discease 199/38.

The words are, of course, conjoined :

the deceasse and dethe 158/15.

(iii) *departing.*

my departynge frome this present worlde 192/24.

at my departyng 41/34, 42/4, 43/9, 27, 30.

att ther departyng 153/35.

att the tyme of ther departing 182/27.

So also with the adjective :

departed and deade 148/24.

Additional Notes.*Words.*

sherive 249/22, 251/1. This seems to be certainly the MS. reading. The probability is that in the letter it was written *sherine*, but the copyist at Lincoln read the *n* as *u* and wrote it as *v*. There is no doubt that the 'shrines' of Ste. Geneviève and St. Marcell are meant. The French corresponding word (O. F. *escrin*, F. *écrin*) does not explain the form. The form *schrine* was in common use at the time. If *sherine* is correct, it must come from a burring pronunciation of *r*.

skift 56/30. The conjecture that this is a misreading for *shift*, in the sense of *to distribute*, seems borne out by a passage in

Canon C. W. Foster's forthcoming *Lincoln Wills*, vol. i, p. 129, l. 8:

'I will that my howsold stuffe be equally shiftyd bitwyne Jenytt my wiffe and thomas Bronde my sonne.'

Sweffes 251/5 is the reading of the MS. It must, however, be used for French *Suisses*. Is it too wild a guess to assume that the copyist at Lincoln was familiar with the German name of the people (*Switzer*) and ignorant of the French name? For the javelin of the Swiss mercenaries the stock reference for English readers is Sir Walter Scott's *Anne of Geierstein*, chap. xxxii.:

'The Swiss brought into the dancing-room with him his eternal halberd, the size and weight and thickness of which boded little good to any one whom the owner might detect in the act of making merry at his expense.'

Additional Syntax Notes.

The inverted sentence. The Paris letter of 1535 shows a distinct fondness for the rhetorical inversion of the sentence, in which the verb comes first and is followed by the subject. There is also here, wherever the verbal form is distinctive, the peculiarity that the verb is in the singular, though the subject may be plural. Is this due to the influence of French idiom—*il y avait*?

ther was . . . scateryd . . . bookes 249/8.

where was gathered . . . the thre other ordres 250/2.

thidre was brought reliques 250/11.

ffirste, was the cordelyars 250/18.

then folowes them the gentilmen 251/7.

after dyner was hadde oute . . . vj. condempned personnes
252/7.

with this receiver was burned thre grette sakes 252/11.

Slips in syntax due to want of revision. There are several anomalies, involving needless repetition of elements, which are probably due to unrevised writing, exactly as we find in hastily written letters at the present day.

any of my childer to whom, any thing I haue beqwethed
to 124/11.

also, I will that suche chardgies . . . I will that myn
executoures do content them 247/25, 27.

tharreragies . . . shalbe . . . to his successurs be fully . . .
paid 269/25, 26.

Doubtful words and places. There are many instances in which a word or phrase is possible, though it seems more natural to assume a slip in writing:

a honest prist to sing for me and all cristend sowles a hole yere 270/20. The word *Christened* does occur, but is used of individuals while alive, not, so far as I have found, of the dead. The word *cristen* (i. e. Christian) is regularly used in this formula, 246/24, 265/17, 266/20.

Mans . . . Roan 252/8, 10, look like Le Mans and Rouen, but in the French document, as cited in Sismondi's *Histoire des Français*, they are given as Nantes and Rennes.

after she is maryed or take on husbond, I will that my soone . . . haue the said hows 267/4. It is conceivable that *take* may be a subjunctive, but in that case it ought to have been *she be maryed*. It seems simplest to assume a slip for *takes*.

Condensed idioms. There are a few places in which the documents affect more curtailed syntax than is found in modern standard use:

ouersears to see this my will be fulfilled 193/24 = to see that this my will shall be (or, as we would now say, is) fulfilled.

it hath not ben sene or hard such a commission to be made to my predecessoures 264/3 = that such a commission has been made.

INDEX I

OF PLACES

The references to places are mostly slight, and whatever interest attaches to them is of value chiefly when they are grouped by counties. I have therefore done this. I may note that the Essex references are all to illustrations from outside, none occur in the actual text of the documents.

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NOTES.—'Santasse,' 46/20, remains unidentified. It cannot be 'Sandtoft' in Lincolnshire, which was only a cell for one or two monks of St. Mary's, York.

'Fulstowe, Arsyk', 62/22, read 'Fulstowe Arsyk'. Of two manors in Fulstow one was called Arsyk, taking its name probably from the family Arsik (*flor. temp. Henr. III*). Robert lord Willoughby owned this Arsik manor in Fulstow parish.

'Ffodrynghey', 62/23, appears (*Cat. Inquis. post mortem*, folio edition, iv. 253) among Lord Willoughby's possessions as 'Foderyng manor co. Lincoln.' It is probably in error for 'Fotherby'.

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Into this Index have been brought all persons actually executing any deed, whether lease, vow, or will; as also a few other outstanding names incidentally mentioned. The numerous names of legatees and witnesses and collaterals are, of purpose, left out.

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I have brought together here, rather spaced out, the chief references to the more important social or domestic matters touched upon in these deeds. The individual references, taken apart, amount to very little; but, when taken in groups, they show, almost pictorially, how many of those points which at the time of these documents were foremost in the thoughts of the nation have now passed into oblivion, and how few of our modern interests were then taken account of. This Index III has to be consulted alongside of Index IV.

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But each member of it has its own special meaning, since the person distraining would (i) *lead* away horses or cattle, by a halter; (ii) *drive* before him sheep or pigs; (iii) *carry* away, in a cart, grain; (iv) *bear* away, in his hands, clothing, naperly, or the like; (v) *impound* live-stock; (vi) secure under lock and key goods, taken as distraint.

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St. Katherine of Alexandria, was
martyred A.D. 307, after being tor-
tured on a wheel, and her head was
taken by angels to Mt. Sinai. The
word *ele*, 46/34, is phonetically
conceivable as *wheel*. At Rome
(*see* in Dr. Furnivall's *Poems*—
E. E. T. S.—in *The Stacyons of*
Rome, lines 149, 150) the stone on
which St. Paul was beheaded was
shown; so that the wheel on which
St. Katherine was tortured is con-
ceivable as a relic. The conjunc-
tion, however, with St. Hoght (*see*
St. Hugh, *supra*, p. 357) suggests
heel, i.e. heel-bone, as a more pro-
bable transliteration and object.
At Rome (*see* in *The Stacyons of*
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and 576) were shown
a foote of Marye Magdeleyne,
seynt Iulyan . . . his chykk and
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an hole arme of seynt Christofre.
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— tablet on memorial stone, 169/5.
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15, 191/19, 259/25.
— rood, 152/23, 180/7, 183/13,
191/15, 223/3.
— Our Lady, 166/7, 191/16; St.
Mary, 259/27.
— Our Lady of Pity, 166/7, 264/23.
— All Souls, 180/7, 191/20.
— St. Clement, 166/8.
— St. Cross, 259/26.
— St. George, 166/8.
— St. James, 223/4.
— St. Katherine, 166/9, 183/16,
259/28.
— St. Nicholas, 183/15, 259/28.
— *see* candles, dirige, funeral customs,
mass, obit, torches.
livery = a suit of clothes, of texture
and colour uniform for a whole
household, provided by a master to
each of his servants, in addition to
his or her fee (*q.v.*), 58/4, 6, 30,
32. It is called *clothing*, 46/26.
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111, 210, 245/25.
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— service and fees, Lollard hatred of,
92, 93.
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— vigils of, 128.
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of Rome, 424, in Dr. Furnivall's
Political, Religious and Love Poems
(E. E. T. S., 1866 and 1903).
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— on thirtieth day after death (month's mind), 48/8, 9, 10, 52/32, 53/5, 54/32, 33.

— on anniversary of death (*obit*), 47/29, 30, 48/4, 157/22, 26, 165/3.

— on holy days, 47/12, 19, 77/22, 26.

— on Sundays, 47/27, 28, 77/22, 26.

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— of the Holy Ghost, 54/20.

— of St. John Baptist, 54/21.

— of St. Katherine, 54/22.

— of Name of Jesus, 146/16.

— of Nativity of Jesus, 54/19.

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— of Requiem, 9, 11, 43/8, 54/18,

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— of the Trinity, 54/17, 120/20.

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allowed to celebrate in a year,

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— to read, 118/8.

— to say, 43/8, 54/16, 17, 27, 77/13,

26, 28, 29, 117/32, 120/24, 121/13,

146/14, 16, 157/22, 160/10, 166/16.

— to sing, 53/24, 27, 118/8, 120/19,

23, 121/21, 160/10, 16, 166/16.

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— mass penny, 8, 13, 27, 165/5, 215,

216, 224, 228/11.

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183/3.

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— desire for a large attendance of clerics at, 166/13, 223/19.

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(i) best animal, 41/35, 45/14 (i.e. unless best is due to the manor as a heriot; in that case, second-best): see horse.

(ii) best article of clothing, 88/22.

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(i) by custom, 88/23, 139/23, 230/27; by 'law', 45/15, refers, no doubt, to the custom of the parish.

(ii) by bequest, 45/14, 120/7.

(iii) by 1529 Statute, 164/10.

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— gifts of clothing at, 121/27.

— dole of money at, 157/29.

¹ There is a *twelve months' mind* which is not an obit: see *infra*, p. 362.

- obit, parish, for benefactors of the parish church, 215, 216.
- obligations or bonds = legal documents by which, under heavy money penalties in case of failure, people pledged themselves to fulfilment of their covenants (e.g. in leases), 173/20, 200/11, 34, 201/16, 202/7, 229/35, 259/29; or similar deeds which pledged executors to faithful discharge of their trust, 119.
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- orchards, 142/8.
- pall, 48.
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- St. Paul: *see* rule, anchoress.
- pauperculus, 7, 13.
- peacock feathers, 46/27.
- penance, severities of, 105, 127.
- commutation of, 107.
- *see* church, churchyard, market-place.
- penny: *see* mass-penny.
- pestilence, frequency of, 26-9, 226-7.
- petty tithe, 26.
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- pilgrimage, 92, 94.
- pillar of scourging, the, 46/33, 51/2: *see* in Dr. Furnivall's *Poems* (E. E. T. S.) in *The Stacjons of Rome* (line 697), the 'pyllur that cryste was bound to'.
- pittance, 13.
- pix, 270/7.
- place = a dwelling-house, 62/21, 89/14, 118/14, 122/19, 231/28, 264/30; manor place, 142/5, 171/12; mansion place, 142/6.
- placebo, 8, 11.
- at burial, 43/8, 9.
- at month's mind, 43/8, 10.
- weekly, 77/29.
- plain song, 166/23.
- plate (= armour), 49/29, 34, 50/3, 56/29.
- plate for altar services, 124/9, 163/27, 28: *see* chalice.
- plate, church, liable to distraint, 228.
- plate, silver, 56/12, 15, 18, 29, 122/15, 124/17, 147/21, 148/6, 162/19, 168/2, 8, 168/10.
- plough, absence of, a mark of poverty, 161/26.
- ploughs, number of, as estimate of population, 54/6, 9.
- poor scholar, 7, 227.
- pope, Lollard hatred of the, 98, 96.
- title forbidden by Henry VIII, 189/12.
- repudiation of supremacy of the, 22, 188, 194.
- Post-communio, 9, 11, 12, 14.
- pot and pan, 40/9, 49/12, 89/33, 34, 135/31, 32, 161/23.
- preach, licences to, 194; University graduates could obtain from their University licence to preach throughout England: Clark's *Reg. Univ. Oxon.* (O. H. S.) II. i. 130.
- preachers, book to record names of, 195.
- Preachers Friars, i.e. Black Friars: *see* Friars.
- Premonstratensians, 132/1.
- priests of nunneries, 196/1; these were summoned because spiritual directors of the convents: *see* *Godstow English Register* (E. E. T. S.), 689.
- printing, slowness to make use of, 194, 216.
- probate of wills, 2, 86, 119.
- procession, the parish, on Sundays and holy days, 101, 103, 127.
- procession, the great Paris, of 1535, 249-51.
- procurations, 177 note.
- psalter, 354.
- of David, 54/22; of Our Lord, 54/23.
- quarter, servants engaged by the, 57/18, 19.
- re-entry, 16, 172, 198, 206, 209, 211, 235, 238, 241, 269.
- registers, origin of church, 29.
- relics:
- *see* cross, crown, pillar, St. Hugh, St. Katherine, St. Mary.
- in a gold cross, 46/31.
- in a brooch, 47/1.
- in a glass vessel, 46/35.
- Lollard hatred of, 91/10, 92 *fn.*
- at Paris, carried in procession, 249, 250.
- repairs, covenants as to, in leases,

132/23, 168/5, 8, 172/31, 187/9, 22,
199/20, 204/21, 205/14, 208/24,
211/14, 235/31, 241/7.
reward = a money payment, over and
above the stipulated fee (*q.v.*) or
hire, given to a servant at the end
of each term of service, and often
bequeathed in a master's will, 63/15,
78/33; called in Latin *regardum*,
60/35, 36.
roads, insecurity of the, 197.
— bequests for repair of, 157/10,
166/10.
rods, being beaten with, in penance,
101/15, 24, 103, 127.
rod, a white, carried in doing penance,
106.
rood-loft, ornaments of, 47/8.
— see lights.
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rural deanery, 99, 101, 195.
Sacrament of the altar = the tran-
substantiated elements, 249/7, 10,
253/15, 254/13; and, so, the host
(carried in procession), 251/13. 'To
the sacrament of the altar' is an
alternative of 'to the high altar'
in bequests, 162/16.
sacraments of the Church, Lollard
antipathy to, 93-9.
Salutation of Our Lady, 43/17.
Scala coeli, 160/17; probably the
Lady Chapel: see in Dr. Furnivall's
Poems, E. E. T. S. in *The Stacyns*
of *Rome*, line 156:
In pat place a chapell ys,
Scala cely called hit ys,
In honour of our lady,
and the note there, p. xxvi. -
school, boys at, 51/31, 121/38, 182/11,
267/13, 270/17.
schoolmasters, directions (1535) to,
190/6.
scourging of Our Lord: see pillar.
Secretum, 9, 11, 12, 14, 190.
seals, official, 15.
— armorial, 86/14.
sepulchre, the Easter, 38/10.
sermons, directions (1535) for, 194.
servants, 3, 354.
— see fee, livery, reward, quarter,
year.
seventh day after death, services on:
see dirige, mass.
— meat and drink at, 52/24.
— orders in will as to, 52/20, 163/31.
shaving, of a priest, 229/5.
singing-bread, 23, 226/4: the wafer

for the communion of the celebrant
at mass. It is so called because
in the making of it certain verses
of the Psalms are sung. It is a
very thin white wafer, made of the
very finest flour. It is a disk
2½ inches in diameter; has at the
edge a raised ring; then, after a
slight space, a second raised ring;
and then a 'crucifix' (a figure of
Christ on the cross) 2¼ inches high,
and a little over 1½ inches wide at
the cross-beam. Distinct from this
is *housel-bread*, the wafer for com-
munion of the laity. This is of
exactly the same material and shape
as the singing-bread, and bears the
same stamp, but is in diameter
only 1¼ inches, and has its crucifix
reduced proportionately. It is this
housel-bread which is referred to,
91/30, 95 par. 7.
stabling, reservation of rights as to,
172/38, 186/24, 203/25.
stone, memorial, in church, 48/1.
169/4; in chantry chapel, 73/19;
in churchyard, 162/14.
stool-ball, 213.
style, Henry VIII's, i.e. official title,
on the Great Seal and in legal
documents, changed (1534) so as
to include *et in terra Ecclesiae*
Anglicanae et Hibernicae Supre-
mum Caput, 188/19, 189/29, 203/4,
216/2, 230/10, 233/22, 236/20,
238/22, 239/6.
subsidies, 177/13, 241/22.
suffragan bishop, 244.
suit to manorial court, 68.
suit, in church vestments, was a com-
plete set of the same colour for the
celebration of mass, 38/12, 45/18,
and included habiliments for the
celebrant, 38/12-14, and hangings
for the altar, &c., 38/9, 12, 39/5, 6.
suit, in household economy, was a set
of curtains and other appointments
of a uniform colour for one room,
39/21, 40/24, 41/10, 12, 18.
Sunday pence, 26.
Supremacy, the King's or Pope's, 21,
188.
— see style.
surplice and stole, 101/15, 103, 127.
swans, 57/9.
synodals, 177/13.
tapers at funerals, 228/9; in proces-
sion, 250/32.

- tenths = a yearly tax on benefices amounting to a tenth part of the annual income, paid to the Pope up to 1534, but afterwards to the King, 204/16, 241/22.
- Terms, Law, 218, 219.
- thatch, covenants as to liability for straw and workmanship between lessor and lessee, 182/24, 28, 208/21, 211/10, 235/32, 241/7.
- thirty-day: *see* month's mind.
- timber, rules as to, under leases or life-grants of lands, 168/7, 198/5, 199/35, 205/14.
- tin, 191/31.
- tithe, chief sources of, 132/5, 175/28, 176/17, 176 *note*, 191/31.
- two chief classes of, 176/18.
- tithe-hay, 132/6, 175/17, 239/20.
- forgotten, 5, 25, 120/1, 137/7, 152/26, 154/20, 157/7, 166/5, 231/2, 247/12.
- garden, 26.
- little (petty), 26, 239/20.
- milk, 176/17.
- private, 25, 227/31.
- toll (of fairs), 268/20, 269/23.
- top-sheet, 37.
- torches, at funerals, 52/27, 55/4.
- usual number in a parish church was four, 157/8.
- bequests were made for their upkeep, so that churchwardens might allow use of them at a nominal price, 154/21, 157/8, 180/8, 181/16, 264/26.
- the use of them was forbidden in Edward VI's time; churchwardens sold them, and put the proceeds into the alms-box ('the poor men's huche').
- carried in procession, 251/15.
- Traducianism, 95.
- Transubstantiation, 93, 95, 257.
- trellis, 161/13 = lattice-work.
- trental (trigintale), 9: *see* month's mind.
- trenthall, 54/4; one tryntall, 159/2, 182/2; a tryntall of masses, 160/9; a trental, 270/14; plainly differ from the month's-mind services. In Dr. Furnivall's *Poems* (E. E. T. S. 1866, and 1908) is found *St. Gregory's Trentall* (p. 114), in which, at lines 189-232, is an outline of such intercessory services as are here referred to.
- twelve months' mind, 183/20; is here a commemorative service on the first anniversary after death, but differing from an obit (*q.v.*), in not being continued in future years.
- unction, extreme, 93, 96.
- vadium: *see* fee.
- veil of a votress, 19, 245.
- vestment, a set of habiliments for priest, deacon, and sub-deacon at celebration of the mass:
- to be made out of a testator's best gowns, 145/15.
- to be kept in special chests or cupboards, 48/25.
- provided for a domestic chapel, 124/9.
- provided for a chantry chapel, 47/4, 8, 13, 77/10.
- bequeathed to a cathedral, 45/17.
- bequeathed to a monastery, 60/12, 14.
- bequeathed to a parish church, 38/11, 57/14, 134/1, 145/16.
- bequeathed to a chantry chapel, 59/20.
- bequeathed to a gild, 60/17, 117/21.
- votress-widows, 19, 88, 113, 114, 209, 210, 244, 245.
- distinctive dress of, 19, 245.
- waifs, 203/18.
- waste (Latin *vastum*), unallowed appropriation by a lessee of timber on the land of his lease, 168/6, 205/17, 269/4.
- watching-candles, 27.
- water-mill, 142/8, 166/26, 173/6.
- wax, 52/27, 77/12, 226/5, 228/9.
- wheat and malt, as representing provision of bread and ale, 42/12, 13, 58/2.
- white rod in public penance, 106, 107.
- white sheet in public penance, 65, 106, 107: was provided by the churchwardens of each parish.
- widows: *see* votress.
- jointure-rights of, 122/14.
- as life-rentrixes, 89/15, 37, 154/12, 163/4, 167/38, 231/31, 261/35, 267/22.
- left larger revenues and privileges if they do not marry again, 122/12, 154/13, 158/11, 159/6, 267/2.
- wills: *see* probate.
- wine, sacramental, 77/12, 226/4.
- witchcraft, 108-111.

woods, treatment of, 62/1, 203/17,
 262/5, 269/4 : *see* timber, waste.
 woodyards, 142/8.
 wool, 56/15, 121/7.
 — tithe of, 175/18.

Wounds, the Five, 157/17, 30, 159/27.
 year, servants engaged by the, 80/5.
 year-day : *see* obit.

INDEX IV

WORDS

Into this index have been brought less usual words and abnormal forms of words, as also a few words which seemed to ask brief explanations. In most cases the form in which they are found in *New English Dictionary* is added. In some cases, owing to re-setting of lines in the final revision, a word may have to be looked for in a line above, or below, that given here. The words in Index III should be consulted along with those in this Index.

The following words seem either not to be readily found in *N. E. D.*, or not to appear there exactly in this sense. The date of each is given.

accordid with 1451.

accompte makyng 1535.

administracions 1536.

affectuous 1455.

apparell 1450, 1465.

armyng 1451.

baylywike 1535.

beset 1450.

betake 1543.

burial 1539.

byrde warke 1527.

cep 1451.

comitie 1486.

custody 1533.

deanry 1535.

descendyng 1465.

dessely 1451.

displais 1486.

drawe 1488.

escrippe 1536.

faileng 1486.

fense tre 1486.

forgan 1527.

funeralles 1539.

furnas 1451.

guyded 1529.

hornhigh 1535.

horys 1527.

howyll 1533.

intreatise 1535.

inward 1540.

knottes 1450.

mynstracions 1538.

name 1455.

oblite 1533.

relage 1451.

rerecharges 1451.

resolucions 1536.

resortyng 1465.

runian 1450.

ryalties 1534.

sadell 1527.

scalbid 1451.

sedile 1450.

sele tre 1486.

semblablement 1535.

septdisme 1536.

sherie 1535.

skomer 1527.

slotte 1527.

somer tre 1486.

sowde 1451.

thewis 1531.

thryve 1465.

The following words are found at earlier or slightly earlier dates than those given in *N. E. D.*

<i>N. E. D.</i>	<i>word.</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>N. E. D.</i>	<i>word.</i>	<i>date</i>
	<i>date.</i>	<i>here.</i>		<i>date.</i>	<i>here.</i>
1548	amice	1450	1611	drathe	1531
1618	amortisement	1455	1555	edifies	1535
1541	assistent	1459	1591	enperlid	1451
1587	bewitt	1452	1598	entrecomyne	1538
1498	beyond sea	1450	1559	exility	1464
1552	bordenyd	1527	1594	extrahis	1536
1607	byrd spyt	1527	1530	fall	1465
1662	chargeable	1485	1586	gaitte	1536
1587	convent	1534	1894	to me warde	1450
1611	culling	1531	1773	none perfourning	1486
1485	descender	1465	1816	slatyng	1542
1656	dispensed	1536	1479	thirty day	1451

aberyng 265/32 abearing.
 abide 62/20; abyde 41/15, 24, 27
 of things = remain as fixtures.
 abyding 40/36 of persons = dwelling.
 aboute me 124/30 on my business.
 accompayned 249/24.
 accompte makyng 182/30.
 accompt of 74/9 (*verb*) to give an
 account of.
 acordid therfor 46/4 agreed as to
 reparation to be made for.
 acordid with 46/2 paid in full.
 admynstracions 208/18 church
 fees of some sort.
 advauntagyes 234/6.
 advertise 249/3 (*verb trans.*) to in-
 form.
 advoutre 256/4 adultery.
 advoydede 228/25 removed.
 advoydyng 177/17 avoiding.
 aduyse 75/34 instructions.
 affectuouse 78/13 showing undue
 favour.
 afor 264/23, a fore 258/1 in front of.
 afor 111/2; afore 74/10 in presence
 of.
 afore 210/28 earlier in date.
 afore 74/32, 83/10, 121/1 earlier in
 a document.
 aforsaid 49/18.
 after 40/33, 41/2, 47/12, 57/7, 77/37,
 89/27, 245/2 (*preposition*) in ac-
 cordance with.
 after 64/11 (*preposition*) in propor-
 tion to.
 after 41/8, 53/30, 64/3 (*preposition*)
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 after 45/9, 148/7 (*adverb*) after-
 wards.
 after tyme 76/36, 77/23 (*conjunc-
 tion*) after.
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 agayn 97/2, 99/4, 112/17; agayne
 115/9, 116/4; agayns 118/25;
 agaynes 265/8 (*preposition*)
 against: *see* ayenst.
 age 122/27, 124/25, 193/19 full age
 (in law).
 agistement 268/8; agistement 269/
 22 rent for leave to pasture.
 agrey 177/26 agree.
 agystment 132/11 right of free
 pasture.
 aisament 132/17.
 alibaster 134/22
 a liffe 155/11; alive 156/17; alvye
 231/34: *see* in live, on live.
 almar 48/23 almary, ambry.
 almysdich 62/19.

alowed 264/6.
 alsomany 120/16; alsmany 53/23.
 alsomoche 78/10; asmoche 69/3,
 187/37.
 als sone 53/31; alswele as 54/24.
 alteragies 227/32 dues claimed by
 a parish priest from his parishioners.
 alway 123/34, 204/18; all way
 118/30; allway 157/28, 161/18,
 205/5; allwayes 199/32, 200/1,
 201/16; allways 218/32, 219/1.
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 amongest 266/18.
 amortesment 73/28 settling of land
 in mortmain
 amorteyssed 73/25, 76/27.
 amove 209/4, 228/25 to eject.
 amysse 43/1 amice.
 ancrysse 162/17 anchoress.
 and 58/36, 122/28 if; 193/18 and if.
 annenste 221/4 towards.
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 immediately.
 annuete 61/27; annewete 56/26;
 annewite 47/27 yearly payment.
 annyversy 165/1 anniversary.
 antechristes 249/5 heretics.
 apparell (i) set of hangings for an
 altar 38/10; (ii) harness for cart
 and plough 123/31, 168/22.
 Apryell 170/5.
 aras 43 note, 57/11; arasse 43/17
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 aras 51/20; aros 51/14 arrows.
 armyng harnas 49/6 suit of armour.
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 astate to, to make 74/13, 85/10,
 122/24 to settle in entail on, to
 enfeof.
 astate 85/26 entail.
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 ayen 211/35, 238/1 (*adverb*) again.
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 ayge, 155/12 age.

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 baily 80/4; bayly 124/33 steward of an estate.
 bayly 66/11, 77/7 alderman.
 baylly 117/16; bayly 118/16 the space outside a great castle.
 bakhouse 51/19, 80/14, 265/8 bakehouse.
 banker 135/18; bancour 41/18; banker 41/23 a covering.
 bargayn 61/32 agreement to buy.
 baron 167/35, 168/21 barn.
 baslard 49/29, 30, 51/17 baselard (sort of dagger).
 bawdekyn 51/1, 78/23 silk cloth shot with gold thread.
 bayed 63/1 bay, reddish brown.
 bayly: *see supra*.
 baylywykes 186/13, 30: a manorial privilege, perhaps right to make tenants serve in turn as bailiff and collect rents, at a nominal fee.
 baysler 26, bachelor (of arts).
 be 45/7 beside.
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 bedes bedyng 47/28 commending to the prayers of the congregation.
 bedmen 51/29.
 bed stede 134/19, 135/10, 163/11.
 bed stokkes 135/22.
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 beeldid, 76/37, 77/23 built.
 beerys 39/18 pillow-cases.
 before 75/25 (*adverb*) earlier in time: *see afore*.
 before 77/37 (*adverb*) earlier in a document.
 before 69/1 (*prep.*) in presence of.
 behalf, in this 83/5; behalve 257/14 in regard to this matter.
 behest 245/19 (*verb*) promise.
 be holdyn 54/3 bound in duty: but

here 'be' is possibly the verb (war = we are, having been written in error for we) = we be holdyn.
 behoof 80/7 use and benefit: *see behove*.
 behote 113/3, 23, 244/3 to promise.
 behove 154/14, 182/10, 217/20, 225/19: *see behoof*.
 be hynde 58/30; behynde 198/26, 240/35 in arrears.
 bequest 123/23 legacy.
 beqweyth 155/6 (*verb*).
 bere 45/9 bier.
 bery 52/5 bury, say the burial service for.
 besett 39/3; besette 40/10 to bequeath.
 bestow 133/19, 134/7, 138/22, 147/22, 148/7 to give.
 betake 237/3 to let on lease.
 betwen 57/6; betwene 224/7.
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 bewitte 57/27, 58/4 to bequeath: *see by witte*.
 beyend the *see* 40/25 (*adjective*) foreign.
 bi 255/7.
 bide 57/19 (of persons) continue to reside: *see bydyng*.
 bifor 97/12, 99/11 in the presence of: *see before*.
 bill 112/19, 210/13 a formal statement in writing.
 bille 58/23 the weapon.
 bisechers 129/9 beseechers.
 blanket 50/26 the cloth.
 blankettes 40/14; blankettis 67/32; blankyttes 135/17.
 body 57/13 nave of a church.
 bodys, the faith of oure 112/20: i.e. *corporale iuramentum* 92/22.
 bokeram 40/1 fine linen.
 boll 49/4 bowl.
 bolle candylstykes 135/25.
 bolle pece 38/20, 27, 39/32 bowl-shaped piece of silver plate.
 boore 192/4 boar.
 borde 49/10 board, the flat top which was laid on trestles to form a movable table: *see burde*.
 bord cloth 39/21, 67/33 covering for a table.
 borden 134/18 (*adjective*) made of boards.
 bordenyd 134/19, 25 (*past partic.*) made of boards.
 bording 246/26.
 bordres 257/37 sides.
 bor spere 49/37.

bot 45/10, 46/8 except.
 bot 45/12, 49/14 (*conjunction*) but.
 bought 167/19 acquired (by exchange).
 brede 136/11, 257/31 breadth.
 bruche 47/1 brooch.
 brig, brigg, 270/10; brigge 256/14, 258/25; bryg 118/34; bryge 158/1; brygg 166/26.
 brynger 253/4, 264/12 the person who brings from me to you.
 buckskyn 232/10.
 burde 49/11: *see* borde.
 buryall 228/1 ground in which to be buried.
 buryng 166/14 burying, funeral.
 busynes 138/32 painstaking.
 but 112/11; butt 217/18 only.
 by 83/26, 89/36 (*preposition*): *see* be.
 by 112/20 (*preposition*) in taking oath.
 by 249/8 (*preposition*) in.
 by 112/6 on or before (a given day).
 by 46/28, 123/35; bye 63/12, 169/4 to buy.
 by cause 28, 148/22, 253/3.
 byde 45/17 (of things) to remain always.
 bydell 118/17 beadle, bedell.
 bydinge 122/27 waiting for.
 bydyng 53/13 dwelling.
 byrd spyt 136/1 a spit for roasting birds.
 byrde warke 135/15: possibly in error for *verde*: but conceivably = embroidered with figures of birds.
 bywitte 57/24 to bequeath.
 byyend 40 *note*.
 call . . . of, to 169/23 to call . . . upon, to insist on.
 canopy 251/12.
 Candelmas day 219/9.
 canibur 49/8.
 Carnes 250/29.
 carrod 134/18: possibly = carved.
 carter 55/28.
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 cattelles 177/2 cattle.
 cawthorn 136/3 caldron.
 cep 49/4.
 chaffyng dyshe 135/26.
 chafr 39/10; chauffer 135/33.
 chargeable 256/9.

chased 39/25.
 chaunce (*verb intrans.*) 249/2 to happen.
 chayer 40/25; chare 134/18
 chayre 251/34; cheyer 39/24.
 chechyn 40 *note*.
 cherchiffe 57/1 kerchief.
 cheregis 54/32 cierges.
 chesiple 38/14 chasuble.
 chiff 118/21 chief.
 child 51/23, 55/31 a lad-servant.
 chylde, poore 27, 28 (in a college) a servitor.
 chitte 45/6.
 churchmen 25 churchwardens.
 chymney 203/24 fire place.
 cipres 40/6 (*adjective*) cypress.
 clene 217/11 (*adverb*) altogether.
 clerely 172/25 utterly.
 cloke 254/3 clack, chattering.
 closes 203/16 in manorial formula.
 closse 132/17 the enclosure formed by farm-buildings.
 closse seme 39/19.
 cloth of gold: silk or other tissue shot with gold thread: 'red' cloth occurs 45/18 and 'white' 45/19: cp. 'red' 49/23, 'black' 49/26.
 clothis of gold 48/2.
 cloth seke 56/32 cloth-sack, port-manteau.
 clout 49/24, 36.
 cnyffes 52/1.
 cobberdes 136/1; coberd 161/15 rests on which a spit turns.
 collacion 115/8.
 collar 126 choler.
 colour 80/29 pretence.
 comens 255/10; comyns 251/30.
 comitie 257/18 county.
 commaundement, to have in 195/3.
 comme up 68/21, 69/2 to be forthcoming.
 commodityte 204/33 advantage.
 commodityties 171/18, 203/19, 210/24 a stock word in the formula of leases.
 communes 207/12 rights of common pasture.
 comune 221/5 to enjoy rights of common pasture.
 comyn 220/4, 14 (*subst.*) common.
 conduyt 256/29.
 connyng man 108 wizard.
 consait 57/7; consayte 57/5 opinion.
 consequently 260/29 next in order.
 content 143/39, 234/30 to pay.
 contentacion 200/37 payment.
 continuall 76/21 continually.

- continue 99/15 (*verb trans.*) to keep up: 65 (*verb intrans.*) to abide.
 contracted 210/5 betrothed.
 contraryetie 196/22.
 contre 40/36, 41/29, 128/15; cun-
 tre 57/15 neighbourhood.
 contynnauce of tyme 210/7 in-
 terval.
 conveaunce 264/7.
 convenient 73/20 suitable, in keep-
 ing with.
 convent 175/22 (*verb intrans.*) to
 agree.
 conventicles 97/9.
 conventiclors 97/11.
 copberd, 40/17; copbord 40/8;
 cupbord 135/5.
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 costis 129/10 outlay of money.
 costeringe 41/22.
 costres 39/13, 40/2; costirs 41/18;
 cousturs 49/7 hangings.
 cotaige 123/2 small holding.
 cote 180/21; cotte 155/8, 232/10
 coat.
 counsel of, to kepe 97/10 to refrain
 from making known.
 courser 63/8 a swift horse.
 courtayns 40/11; courteyns 39/7;
 courteynys 43/21; curtayns
 67/19; curtaynes 41/10; cur-
 teyns 39/13; curtyns 57/3;
 curtyyns 56/34
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 171/17; profyttes of 186/14,
 203/17; suit to: *see* sutes.
 coveracle 39/25; covercle 39 *note*.
 coverlect 120/35; coverlett 153/14;
 coverlid 48/2; coverlyd 135/14,
 17: covering of cloth for bed, altar-
 tomb, &c.
 cownter 134/17.
 cownterpoyntes 135/13 quilted bed-
 covers.
 creature 72/5 creator.
 crucifix 39/4 representation of the
 crucifixion, in embroidery.
 crucefixe 131/12 the rood in the
 church.
 culling lamb 247/13, 15, apparently
 = rejected for breeding purposes,
 and being fattened for the butcher.
 curtayns: *see* courtayns.
 custes 257/24 costs.
 custody 134/4 possession.
 customably 199/14 by custom.
 dagar 50/6, 51/17.
 dale 52/30 dole; dayll 53/8 distri-
 bution of doles.
 dam 53/24 sir; dam 49/21, 50/14
 lady.
 damaske 38/13, 145/15 figured silk.
 dan 48/13 sir.
 daye, twoo yeres 183/22.
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 deel.
 deanry 195/11 the clergy of a rural
 deanery.
 decesse (*verb and subst.*) 340, 341.
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 deel 68/19; deele 69/2; deyll
 157/16; deyllle 163/6 (*verb*) to
 distribute in alms: *past partic.* =
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 223/21.
 deel 68/18 portion (of an estate):
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 deforced 65 separated.
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 demeyn 269/22 demesne.
 demeaninge 221/4 behaviour.
 demerites 255/7.
 depart 340, 341 (*verb*) to die.
 depart 38/20, 40/32, 43/5 (*verb*) to
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 departing 41/32, 34 = death.
 depute 280/3 to appoint.
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 47/30, 53/7, 54/27; deryge 52/6,
 53/5; dirige 52/14, 77/29, 90/4;
 dyryge 157/22.
 descender 124/3; descendyng
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 dese 49/11, 135/4; deice 41/24;
 deyse 41 *note* dais.
 deserve 264/13 to requite.
 deslour 182/19, 253/3; desyeringe
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 dessely 49/11: ? so as to be used
 on a dais.
 deteigne 240/32.
 determynacion 175/20.
 detter 153/6 debtor.
 dettes 56/5 debts due to a person;
 dettes 62/15; debtes 156/4;

- dettys 46/2, 64/10, 89/37 debts due by a person.
 dewell 254/12 devil.
 diademund 49/19, 50/2 diamond.
 diaped 41/19: *see* dyaper.
 diche 205/2 to enclose by a ditch.
 diligens, to do, 75/21.
 dim. 39/20, 67/34; dimid. 136/9: = dimidium: contraction in regular use for *half* as *li.* = *libra* for *pound*.
 discend 151/25 (*verb*) descend.
 discontynue 82/28, 84/12, 85/20 to break the entail of an estate by the tenant-in-tail wrongfully alienating the land.
 discontinuance 83/9, 20, 85/35 loss of title to an estate caused by wrongful alienation.
 displais 258/25, 28.
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 disposicion 139/9, 156/20, 221/28.
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 distresse 208/30; distresses 172/9 chattel or chattels taken in distraint.
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 do 314 (*verb expletive*).
 do for, to 56/20, 68/27, 90/6 to do one's best for.
 do for to let, to 80/28 to act so as to annul.
 do 314 (*verb trans.*): to do the charges 55/13 to pay; to do dirige 52/6, 32; to do exsquires 52/32; to do mass 47/19, 52/6; to do service 52/6.
 doble fest 77/22.
 doblet 51/20, 165/14; doublett 246/21; dowbelet 58/7; dowblett 232/10.
 dobull gowne 51/11; dubull gowne 51/31.
 dole mede 176/14, 30.
 dollfyn 250/13 dauphin.
 domicellus 86/23.
 done 57/17; doon 64/18 completed.
 dornyx 134/26, 135/10 cloth (originally as made at Tournay).
 drathe 247/11 a ewe which has ceased to yield milk, and is therefore fattened for the butcher. In *N. E. D.* appears as *drape*.
 drawe 262/7 brought up.
 duckett 246/14 † ducat.
 duetie 262/7 due.
 dyaper 136/8 (*subst.*); 136/7 (*adj.*) edifices 186/11, 187/10; edifices 186/29.
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 eftesones 80/23, 220/10 again.
 egall, egally 266/16, 17.
 ele 46/34, 353 † heel-bone.
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 elsewhere appears as: *elles* where 81/24 139/12; *ells* where 83/2; *ellus* where 82/12, 85/14.
 elther 80/30 of older date.
 emaugde 46/19 † emerald.
 embesyll 168/26.
 emolumentes 186/15, 198/3, 225/11, 239/29.
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 empounde 208/31.
 embrowdred 41/9 embroidered.
 encensure 38/6 censer.
 endented 81/2.
 enformede 220/7.
 enheritaunce 267/5.
 enherite me, to 85/34 be heir to me: *see* inherite.
 enny 269/25.
 enperlid 46/18 imperaled.
 ensuengly 151/12.
 ensured 113/3, 22, 244/3 betrothed.
 entir in, to 122/8 take possession of.
 entrechaungeably 269/27.
 entrecomyne 220/3, 14 (*verb*) to share, in a friendly way, rights of common pasture.
 erthe, to bryng on 133/19, 158/32, 35.
 escheker 129/14, 130/1.
 eschetes 171/17.
 eschue 221/8; eschewyng 80/24.
 escrippe 205/17.
 etwyne 45/18 atween, between.
 evaungelijs 98/2, 111/11.
 even 225/30; euyng 204/11 equal.
 evyne 56/30 equally.
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 execucion, to putt in the 195/6 to put into execution.
 executrice 118/28; executrix 156/25, 265/35.
 exilite 129/7 scantiness.
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expounid 57/6 expounded.
extrahies 203/18 estray.
eye in, to have an 196/29.
eyre 184/3 (*verb*) to inherit: *see*
heyre.
eyre lomys 163/12: *see* heyrloimes.

fabrica 5, 60/1, 88/23, 27.
fagot 101/1.
faileng 256/14 giving way, ruin.
faith, to make 125 to affirm on oath.
falle 124/9, 176/19; ffall 176/33
(*verb*) to occur.
fall 122/32, 123/4 (of a benefice) to
become vacant.
fall voyde 186/21; fall void 240/5.
farme 269/6 rent under a lease; land
held on lease 269/10.

fast bi 256/15.
fatt 136/2 vat.
favour 78/13, 120/34 partiality.
faythfull trust 165/13.
february 57/23; feberzer 45/2.
fedynges 171/16, 186/13, 203/16,
207/13.
fee 61/27 land held of a manor.
fee, laye 234/33 manorial estate as
distinct from rectorial estate.
fee 356 wage of a servant.
fee ferme 81/26, 82/20 fixed rent.
felaship 119/19; feliship 97/29.
ffence, covenants for repair of
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fense tre 258/1.
feoffament 82/16.
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21 land held on lease.
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172/15, 173/14 rent paid under
a lease.

ferme, to let to 171/11, 197/26,
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festyvall holidayes 226/28.

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ffeyres 268/20.

feyth 266/19.

figury 124/9.

filolus 260/8 godson.

find 270/19; finde 48/3 (*verb*): *see*
fynd.

firtheras 55/35.

ffishyng 268/19, 269/12.

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66/25; browne flemmysh 67/2,
26.

fo 48/24 for.

folium 37, 67/20 a width of linen
cloth.

fonte stone 191/11.

forbede 158/18 forbid.

for bycause 148/22 because.

forgan 136/17.

forgotten tithe 362.

forme 41/26, 28, 134/18, 135/8,
163/11 bench.

forsean 204/33; fforesean 205/4
(*conjunction*) foreseen.

fortune 182/24, 201/30; ffortune
201/14 (*verb*) to happen.

fortune 187/25, 211/20, 29, 240/35;
ffortune 172/15 (*verb impers.*) to
happen. For construction *see*
p. 329.

ffosse 268/13.

fother 48/20 (*verb*) to further.

fourmer 117/14 creator.

ffoxe 264/29.

foyns 167/28 a kind of fur.

fraternitas 60/16 gild.

fraunchese 62/7.

free 132/18 uninterrupted; free
185/5 freehold.

fringed 43/21 fringed.

ffrice 121/27 frieze, coarse woollen
cloth.

fro 112/3, 8; 124/12 from.

frontell 38/8, 39/6.

ffructes 204/16 profits.

fruutorium 260/18.

fruytes 132/7 crops.

full 128/8 (*adverb*) very.

ffull purpose 210/10.

full 134/8, 150/22, 170/14, 193/22
(of an executor) having full power
to act.

ffuller 65/4.

funeralles 138/6 funeral expenses.

funeralles 228/1 ground in which to
be buried.

furnas 49/13 ? bakehouse.

furr 264/29.

furred 42/32; ffurrid 51/32: furryd
51/6.

fustian 67/19; fustyan 135/13;

ffustians 39/18; fustyan 41/11.

ffychoes 264/29 fitchew.

fynde 132/28, 235/35; ffynde
199/29; to provide (material).

fynd 246/23; fynde 56/24; ffynde
208/12 to provide the services (of
a person): *see* find.

fynde 51/31, 121/36, 37 to provide
for the maintenance (of a person)
(*past partic.*) fownde 121/39.

fynde him with, to 56/24 wherewith
to provide for his maintenance.
fynde hymselfe, to 246/30 to provide
for his own board and lodging.
fyndyng 144/21, 145/22 (*verbal*
subst.) providing the services of;
fyndyng 182/10 (*verbal subst.*)
providing for the maintenance of.
ffynes 171/17, 203/18.
fynne clothe 232/19.
fyre herthe 136/15.
ffyshinges 203/17.

gaberdyne 246/18 smock-frock.
gaittes 203/16 rights of pasture.
gar 47/29, 54/3, 57/14; (*past tense*)
gart 46/21, 27 to cause to act. Is
followed by a verb without 'to'.
gardeviance 39/33; gardevyance
39/29; gardevyaunce 42/28;
always mentioned as 'a pair of'.
garnysche 134/27 a set of pewter
vessels.
garnysshyd 135/11 provided with
all accessories.
gaudes 46/24; gaudys 46/21 the
larger beads in a rosary.
gawdid 49/20 having larger beads.
gendre 196/22 (*verb*) to bring into
being.
gest 126 jest.
gete 50/21 (*subst.*); gette 50/13
(*adj.*) jet.
geyre 185/2 harness.
girdill 49/2; girdyll 49/26, gridyll
50/6; gurdyll 49/23; gyrdyll
231/24, 232/21.
gifte 198/6 right of presentation.
giste tre 257/32 joist.
glasie 46/5 ? a glass vessel.
glebe londes 186/12; glebe landes
207/12, 239/28.
goddess body 50/23 the host.
gold : see cloth, powdered.
gold 163/10 gold coinage.
goodlieste, mooste 250/23.
gootys 40/13 goats.
governance 78/16 personal conduct.
governance 56/22 wardship of a
minor.
governours 225/33, 226/14 church-
wardens.
grasdaw 48/6.
graunte 201/9 grantee.
graved 169/6 carved (on a brass
tablet).
grayle 38/16 book of antiphons (sung
from step of altar).
gray 43/3 (*subst.*) grey fur.

gray 43/1, 58/9 (*adj.*).
grege trenthall 54/4, 362 trentall
of St. Gregory.
grehondes 51/21 greyhounds.
gresefote 50/25 foot of the grice (i.e.
stairs) : cp. greys in *The Stacyons*
of Rome, line 28 in Dr. Furnivall's
Poems (E. E. T. S. 1866, 1903).
gresyng 92/12 extreme unction.
growe 158/26 accrue (of money).
grubbe 238/8.
gruge 26 (*verb trans.*) grudge, make
uneasy.
gudle 46/5 goodly.
guyded 138/11 educated.
guydyng 138/15 education (of chil-
dren).
gyldyng 170/11 gelding
gyldyng 161/13 verbal substantive
of verb to *gill*.
gyle fatt 136/2.

haburion 50/5 habergeon, sleeveless
coat of mail.
haknes 51/34 hackney (horse).
halfendell 83/22, 84/34, 85/38 half-
deel, moiety.
halling 41/17 tapestry for a hall.
halte 252/27 fail to act as commanded.
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harden 136/9, 14 : herdyn 136/10
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harmelesse, to save 61/22, 63/4,
144/3 to guarantee against any
claim in respect of.
harnas, a 49/6, 28, 34 a suit of
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harnas 56/29, 265/33 armour.
harnas 50/7 ornaments (of a girdle).
harnast 49/29 (of a dagger); harnest
232/21 (of a girdle) ornamented
with gold or silver.
harnesse 67/7; harnas 45/14 (for
a horse).
hart 51/1 a stone set in a ring.
haryottes 171/17.
hate piscern 50/5.
hawberdes 251/29 halberts.
he 24; hee 162/15; hye 49/11 high.
heckford 153/12, 20 heifer.
hed shete 37, 39/20, 42/24, 67/14,
136/12 top sheet.
hede chirche 152/27 cathedral
church : see mother church.
hedge 205/2 (*verb*).
hedgyng 269/5.
heedes 195/14 heads.
heire 136/3 a hair sieve.
hekfares 43/30 heifers.

hele 281 (*substantive*).
 hele 45/3 : if *substantive* = health ; if *adjective* = whole.
 heledays 47/12, 19 holydays.
 helpyng 55/8 better maintenance.
 helpyng warde, to hir 55/10 towards her better maintenance.
 helyng 67/16 covering.
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 hire 353 (*substantive*) fee.
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 hogge 192/4 (probably) swine.
 hoggerell 247/2, 11 a sheep in the (? second or) third year of its life.
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 holdyn forth, to be 56/3 kept on exactly as it was.
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 kendall 265/13.
 kepyng 138/15 maintenance (of children).
 kercher 160/11; kerchif 56/32.
 kirtilles 43/5.
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 knowlige 96/4, 97/29, 34 (*subst.*) knowledge.
 knowlige, to make 97/37 to give information about.
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 knowlage 97/11; knowlege 153/5; (*verb*) to make known.
 knowlege 115/2 (*verb*) confess.
 knowlege 189/23, 28 (*verb*) acknowledge (the claim of).
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 lyn 136/13 (*subst.*) linen cloth.
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 on of 53/32; oon of 120/25 one
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 unit.
 oon 39/21 a special one out of several.
 oon 128/1 a certain person, *quidam*.
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 on bere 45/9 on a bier.
 on live 145/27, alive, *q.v.*
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 onlesse thanne 77/26 unless then,
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ordynall 47/12 book of prescribed church services.
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orfrade 45/24 orphreyed.
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outgate 132/18 right of going out, egress.
over 68/28, 77/9 in addition to.
overpluse 122/3.
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owt rentes 204/14 quit-rents and other payments charged on land.
owte take 68/23; **outetake** 68/15 = except (much more in use in these documents).
paled 43/19; **palid** 45/17: having alternate vertical strips of different colours.
palice 250/10 palace.
parantphrasyn 249/9.
parfytt 151/8 (*adj.*) perfect.
parich 51/30; **parych** 45/7; **parys** 54/6.
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parochianus 86/27, 35 a person domiciled in a diocese.
parroch 257/18 parish.
parte, to do one's, 75/21.
parte 156/16 portion, allotted share of goods.
partie 225/2 one of the two contracting sides in an agreement.
parties 121/34 districts.
party 118/17; **partye** 118/19 part (i.e. side).
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payns takyng 233/9; **paynes** 184/13: *see labor*.
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peaxe 221/2.
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pelcr 46/33, 51/2 pillar.
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pisceyn 50/5 possibly = *pisane*, armour for upper part of chest and neck.

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 plogh 49/10; plough 185/2 plough.
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 poyre 159/25.
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 pollys 43/2 pellys, pells = furs.
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 = portable breviary.
 posnet 135/33 small saucepan.
 possede 235/20.
 poteller 39/23 a two-quart tankard.
 potyll 89/35 two quarts, half-gallon.
 poure 47/12 power.
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 of money).
 putto 64/24, 75/26, 148/2 (*verb*) to
 append (a seal), (a signature).
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 pyt, pyte 27 grave.
 pyte, our lady off 152/22 an image
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 priest probably resident in a house-
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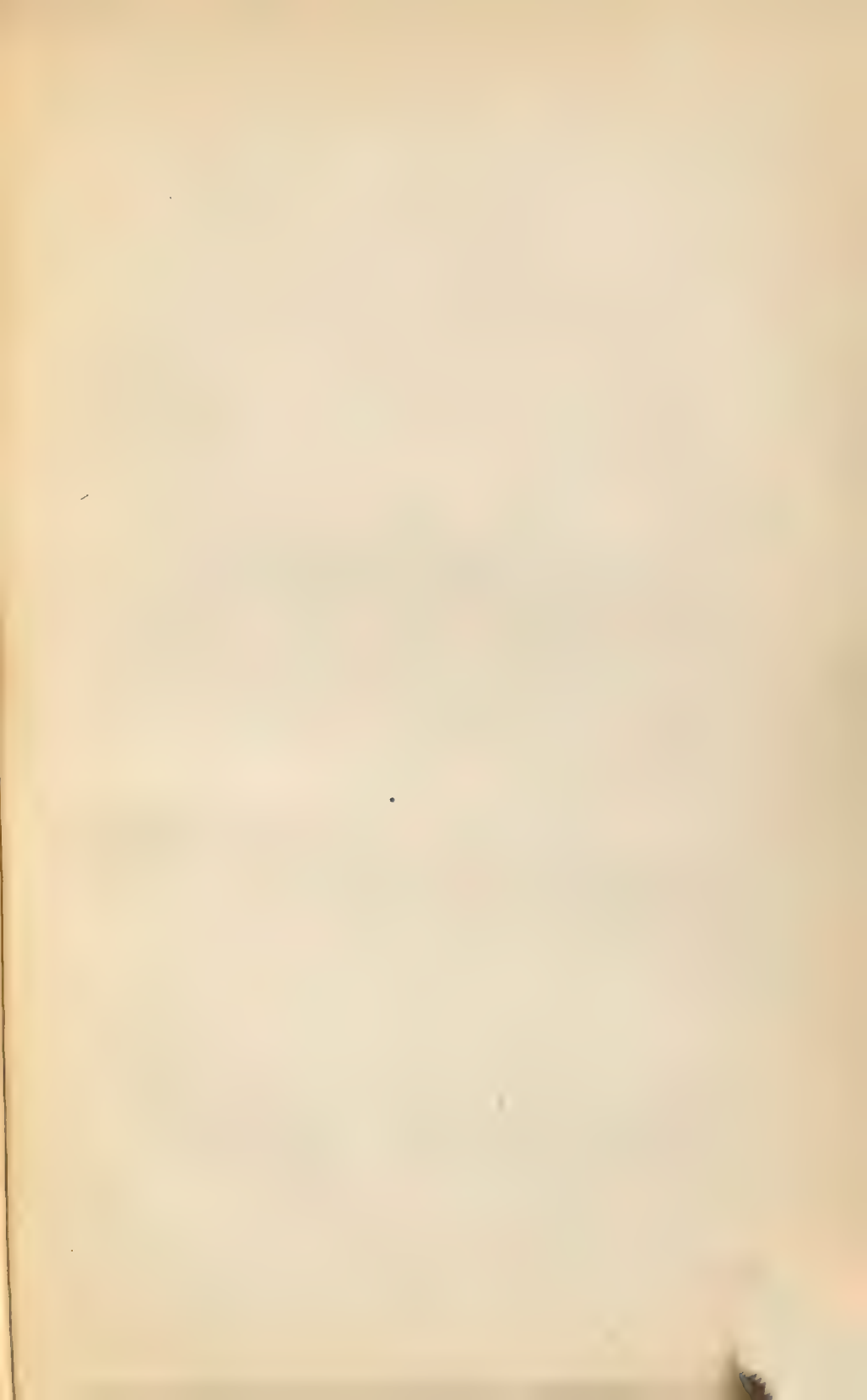
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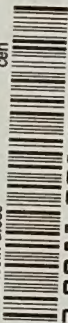


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